

# THE TIMES

The fearless priest  
in line for a  
peace prize, page 18

## Shah intent on staying in power despite violence

In the streets will not persuade the Shah to give up his throne, he told. The Shah in an interview. Although shaken by the fears that chaos and civil war would follow his departure, with the Army dividing into factions. But he is by no means sure worst is over.

## Civil war feared if monarchy ends

es Douglas-Horne would remain paralysed by strikes until it was formed, but there is no sign yet that his approach to former Opposition leaders are making headway.

Before this crisis overwhelmed him, the Shah was planning moves which would have led ultimately to his abdication in favour of the 19-year-old Crown Prince, who constitutionally cannot mount the throne until he is 20. There were discussions about creating a regency council, headed by the Crown Prince's mother, Queen Farah, to hold power if the Shah died during the Crown Prince's minority. That plan is out of the question now, because of the Islamic revival in evidence, Iran would be in no mood to accept a woman in such a position.

Fortified by the conviction that there is nothing between his own rule and chaos, the Shah still appears to be baffled about what to do next to cool Iran's temper. He is bitter about the public appetite for a new monarch, such as Mr. Abbas Khomeini, his former Prime Minister, now under arrest on suspicion of corruption.

He used to think that as many as 95 per cent of the population were in favour of the monarchy. That figure is unlikely to be so large now, but he believes there is still a huge majority in its favour. The monarchy and the cohesion of the Army were the guarantees of stability.

Although some of the Shah's recent visitors have reported signs that he is beginning to recover his confidence and resilience, those signs were not evident when the Shah was in Tehran. He is going through possibly the most profound personal crisis of his career since the Mossadegh affair in 1953. He is deeply wounded by the personal criticism which he feels and which he resents.

Some of his emotional difficulty derives from years of being surrounded by court officials who shielded him from unpleasant reality, or faced dismissal if they disagreed with him. A popular epithet in Tehran these days is that the difference between this Shah and his father, Reza Shah, is that nobody ever dared tell him to the older man or the truth to his son.

Those of his supporters who accept this criticism, say that it has finally taken the truth, however painful, to change him. His critics appear to be waiting to see whether he really can absorb this reality, or needs more time to reject it.

Bazaar clash, page 8



Princess Michael of Kent, who is expecting a baby in April, with her husband, in a portrait by Lord Snowdon. The Prince, who grew his beard while on leave from the Army, has since shaved it off.

## Progress on disputes at 'Times'

By Christopher Thomas, Labour Editor

General secretaries and national officials of all Fleet Street unions, except the National Graphical Association, reached agreement yesterday with Times Newspapers on a new dispute procedure. It is subject to ratification by the shop-floor members and their executives.

If the new procedure survives those tests, it will be regarded as an important step towards the revised terms and conditions of employment the management is seeking in return for lifting its threat to suspend publication of The Times and The Sunday Times on November 30.

Mr. Dugal Nisbet-Smith, director of general management of Times Newspapers, said: "This is a most encouraging step forward. It should help substantially in the detailed negotiations that are continuing at shop-floor level and shows how given good will the most obstinate issues can be satisfactorily resolved after a relatively short time."

The agreement was concluded after the management had withdrawn a provision that would have taken all employees off the payroll after 24 hours if there was a dispute that had not been conducted through the agreed procedures.

The NGA refused to discuss the dispute procedure unless the threat to shut down the paper was lifted. It has also broken off talks about new technology. Despite yesterday's progress, it seems that there is still a long way to go before that threat can be lifted.

Continued on page 2, col 3

## TUC leaders in move to restore influence

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Trade union leaders yesterday set in train a new effort to restore their diminished influence on the Cabinet through top-level talks about the economy and wages.

The TUC General Council adopted without dissent a proposal "to intensify discussions with the Government on developments in the economic situation."

The unions are to press for industrial expansion, moves to combat unemployment, and fair treatment for public sector workers. They are also looking for more acceptable policies on low pay and tougher price controls.

In effect, the TUC is seeking the restoration of those parts of which it approves of the ill-fated joint agreement rejected last week without conceding an explicit commitment to wage restraint in return.

Asked for what he hoped from the forthcoming talks with ministers, Mr. Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said: "As always, a meeting of minds between ourselves and the Government on broad economic objectives and the means of achieving them."

These were officially no recriminations about last week's 14-1 vote by the general council not to endorse the joint statement so painfully negotiated by their six representatives over the five-week period since the Labour Party conference.

The move to return to the negotiating table, proposed by Mr. David Bassett, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical, and Managerial Staffs, is argued to

be a continuation of present TUC policies.

"Is it an attempt to reopen the joint statement?" Mr. Murray asked. "The answer is a clear and unequivocal 'no'. It is not an attempt to renege on that statement."

For all that, the outcome may be indistinguishable from one. The TUC will discuss low pay, compatibility and wages between the public sector and private industry and stronger measures to hold down prices.

Mr. Jenkins said after yesterday's meeting: "We have to avert a dustman's strike and a health service dispute. They are not necessary and we can find better ways of dealing with these things."

He added that there had been "no agro" at the general council over the proposal to renege on the joint statement, but there were some objections from union leaders who felt that the TUC's negotiators had exceeded their brief in seeking to commit the union to what many thought were new curbs on collective bargaining.

What is emerging is a different version of the joint statement that failed to get TUC approval. The unions are talking about ad hoc machinery to relate pay in the potentially troublesome public sector to wages in the private sector, where restraint has been less effective over the past three years.

## Coalfield study

The National Coal Board may spend £1m on a feasibility study of a new coalfield covering 100 sq miles in Central Scotland.

## Unesco finds common ground on media

From Ian Murray, Paris, Nov 22

A declaration on the role of the news media was passed by acclamation today by the twentieth general conference of Unesco.

In the studied euphoria which followed Mr. Olth Riebach, the United States delegate, said it was "a triumph of spirit of good will and international cooperation that can and should animate the United Nations, in general and Unesco in particular."

He then placed on record the great differences he saw between the role of the press in some member nations where it was totally supporting government policy and in others where the "absolute freedom of the press from coercion and restraint is a deeply held article of faith". This freedom might be abused, but he quoted Thomas Jefferson in saying: "We must tolerate error so long as truth exists to combat it."

Acceptance by acclamation of the document had been an emotional occasion with the delegates standing to applaud Mr. Amador Malheur, Mr. Bow, the Unesco director general.

The ritual over, delegate after delegate rose to voice reservations about the wording. It was increasingly clear that what was agreed was the lowest common denominator between the different points of view.

Every word and punctuation mark of the document has been a subject of long and often bitter controversy since the conference began. What is important in the end, however, is the fact that all the delegates felt the need to agree something rather than risk breaking up Unesco itself.

In the words of the Indian delegate, there was a feeling of mutual cooperation and understanding which had to endure. "The non-aligned countries and developing countries of the world expect no more and demand no less."

The Chinese delegation had its reservations. The document spoke of the duty to the media to combat war, but there were just wars and unjust wars, and the media had its role to play in supporting the just wars for national independence while condemning the unjust wars of colonialism.

The Philippine delegate wondered what had happened to all the clauses calling for journalists to act responsibly. He wondered why they had been excused this.

Dr Tom Margerison, for the British delegation, said the document was not a compromise as no one had compromised his principles. "The declaration meets our major concern. It places no hint of state control on the media and no information to flow nor on the freedom for journalists to have access to information. These are the freedoms which in our view make democracy work."

Mr. Yuri Kozlov, the Soviet delegate, speaking of the freedom of the press, said that most countries had a different concept of what it means. It was usually not the same as was understood by Lord Thomson, Mr. Hearst or Herr Springer.

Trying to sum it all up, the Canadian delegate hoped that what he called "the Spirit of Paris" would pass into the language as an expression meaning the will of people to find a way of agreeing with one another.

Text of articles, page 8  
Leading article, page 19

## 'Plot with Mr Thorpe to defraud Liberal Party benefactor'

From Michael Horsnell and Trevor Fishlock, Minehead

Jeremy Thorpe and Peter Bessell, once close friends, plotted to swindle Mr Jack Hayward, the millionaire British businessman based in the Bahamas and benefactor of the Liberal Party, Mr Bessell alleged yesterday, the third day of his evidence in the Thorpe conspiracy case hearing at Minehead Magistrates' Court, Somerset.

The aim of the plot, he said, was to net them \$500,000 and involved, as part of a bizarre ruse, getting Mr Hayward to believe that he (Mr Bessell) was on the verge of suicide because of financial difficulties.

The fraud, he said, was planned in 1974, when he was living in California and was deeply in debt after the failure of businesses. His British and American debts were about £250,000.

His money troubles led him to "disappear" early in 1974, and he spent a few days in Mexico, where, it was said, he suffered a heart attack. He denied that he "disappeared" to get away from his creditors.

He returned to the United States, driven by Diane Kelly, who was to become his wife, and, later, her father contacted Lord (John) Foot who started negotiations with Mr Bessell's creditors.

Meanwhile, Mr Bessell said, he is low in the United States. I kept myself incommunicado because I thought it wiser to keep rambles cool in the hope that a settlement would be made and it would give me an opportunity to rehabilitate myself," he said.

Although incommunicado, he added, he was living openly in Oceanside, California, under his own name and was not difficult to find.

He started negotiations with Mr Hayward (known to his friends as "Union" Jack Hayward), over the sale of some of the businessman's interests in the United States. The deal involved several million pounds and, Mr Bessell said, he himself stood to get a commission of 5 per cent, depending on how the sales went.

Mr Bessell said that both he and Mr Thorpe suggested to Mr Hayward that the transactions would be expedited. Mr Hayward paid them \$500,000. To

speed up that aspect of the matter he, Mr Bessell, let it be known, through his own words, and those of Mr Thorpe, that he was reaching the end of his tether over his money worries.

"Mr Thorpe and I pretended that if a bribe of \$500,000 were paid this would facilitate the transaction," he said.

Sir David Napley, for the defence of Mr Thorpe, asked: "Are you telling us that Mr Thorpe was a party to perpetrating a fraud on Mr Hayward?" Mr Bessell replied that he was.

Mr Bessell said that he later wrote letters (it was not said who received them), saying that Mr Thorpe had not been involved in the plan to swindle. That, however, was not true. He had written the letters to try to protect Mr Thorpe, ensuring he kept his name out of the relationship with Mr Hayward would not be affected and that Mr Hayward would not cease to be a benefactor of the Liberal Party.

Mr Bessell said he had told Mr Hayward of the matter last July and had told the police about it last week.

Replying to Sir David, Mr Bessell admitted that he had told lies over a period.

"I have a credibility problem now," he continued. "I accept that it is a problem to know when I am telling the truth and when I am telling lies."

He said he had regarded Mr Thorpe as a close friend, and had himself felt he had been a true friend to Mr Thorpe. That friendship ceased when he told the Daily Mail that he had lied on Mr Thorpe's behalf. He had ceased to be Mr Thorpe's friend, because he could not sustain a false position, a position damaging to the Liberal Party.

Mr Peter Taylor, QC, for the Crown, made a statement on behalf of the Crown about reports, based on Mr Bessell's evidence, that Lord Goodman had suggested a cover-up plan to help Mr Thorpe.

Mr Taylor said that some of the reports in newspapers might have given the impression that there was direct evidence of Lord Goodman suggesting a plan and that that was part of the prosecution's case. That was not so. It was not part of the prosecution case, and Mr Bessell's evidence was that David Holmes, one of the defendants, had told Mr Bessell about Lord Goodman.

Report, page 6  
Letters, page 19

## 200 Vietnamese feared dead as escape boat capsizes

Kuala Lumpur, Nov 22—A fishing boat carrying Vietnamese refugees capsized and sank off Malaysia's east coast today and there were fears that up to 200 drowned.

Authorities at the port of Kuala Trengganu said that there were about 50 survivors.

According to survivors, about 250 people were on board the 60ft boat when it ran on to a sandbank and broke up in heavy seas within 200 yards of land.

The tragedy occurred as the flimsy vessel tried to enter Kuala Trengganu harbour. It was directed to follow a supply boat going to a refugee camp on an island a few miles along the coast, a Malaysian Government spokesman said.

The Vietnamese boat apparently took the wrong channel, got into difficulties in heavy seas, and hit the sandbank.

Meanwhile, 2,500 Vietnamese refugees on board the tramp steamer Hai Hong who have been refused permission to land in Malaysia, were being screened by Cambodian and French immigration officials.

Photograph, page 9

The search for an original begins here,

and ends here

Dewar's the first to bottle the spirit of Scotland

## C-ITV rift over football

has postponed two meetings independent television companies suit of LWT's £5m deal for coverage of football for the next year. It also indicates with the Independent Television Authority demanding to the IFA had not intervened to the "covert" abandonment of a deal agreement on coverage. The IFA had not intervened to the "covert" abandonment of a deal agreement on coverage. The IFA had not intervened to the "covert" abandonment of a deal agreement on coverage.

## Health powers urged

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## EMS option sought

The Cabinet is now actively exploring how Britain can join the European Monetary System from its start on January 1, while initially staying outside its scheme of fixed exchange rates. This emerged last night at the conclusion of Mr Callaghan's talks with Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Prime Minister.

## Doctors' pay

Leaders of the 21,500 junior hospital doctors will offer to forgo the right to take industrial action in return for direct pay bargaining.

## saw Pact strategy

of the Warsaw Pact are meeting to work out their strategy in the round of the six-year-old talks on reductions in central Europe.

## American charged with Congressman's murder

One of three Americans arrested in connection with the killing of Congressman Leo Ryan and four other people was brought before court and charged with a Guyanese contract and formally charged with the murder of Congressman Leo Ryan, aged 32, from California, his face showing several days' growth of beard, was escorted through a large crowd. Bail was refused.

Victims flow out, page 9

## French seek creation of 'sea gendarmerie'

A report produced by a French parliamentary committee investigating the Amoco Cadiz disaster proposes increased powers for coastal states over shipping in the Channel and the Mediterranean. It wants a modification of international maritime law to make this possible and proposes the creation of a "sea gendarmerie" to enforce it.

Leaders page 19

Letters: the magistrates' hearing in England from Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, Mr. on Mr. Munghe's assassination list from Lord Walton.

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## Ford men to return under the shadow of sanctions

Ford workers are returning to work after accepting a 16.5 per cent wage settlement of their nine-week-old official strike. That pay agreement, which is more than three times the government permitted limit presents the Government with a serious political challenge.

Mass meetings of most of the 57,000 workers yesterday were heavily in favour of the union leaders' recommendation to accept the pay package, which is expected to bring down sanctions on the Ford Motor Company.

Work is expected to be resumed tomorrow at most of Ford's 23 United Kingdom plants. Militant shop stewards on Merseyside failed in an effort to prolong the stoppage by proposing rejection of the wage deal to Hallowood employees.

At Dagenham only a hundred men out of 15,000 attending a mass meeting voted against the union leaders' recommendation to accept the offer but shop stewards predicted that there would be trouble in the future if the company implements its controversial attendance bonus in a way that is unacceptable to the shop floor.

Addressing the workers, Mr Michael Murphy, district official of the Transport and

General Workers' Union, told the Dagenham meeting: "If the Government imposes sanctions we will seek a joint approach with the company to object. We regard sanctions as an interference in collective bargaining."

The Government has not publicised its intention to impose sanctions, but the Department of Industry is understood to be ready to invoke a public purchasing veto on Ford, which, if fully implemented, might cost £100m a year in lost orders.

Workers at Dagenham, Davenport, Hatfield, Halesowen, Avley, Basildon, Southampton, and the axle plant at Swansea voted yesterday to go back to work on the basis of the offer of nearly 17 per cent, 9.75 of it on basic rates.

The Ford stoppage, which has cost a loss of vehicle production estimated at £440m, will end as the TUC is seeking more talks with the Government about an accommodation on wages and the economy.

Photograph, page 2  
Business News, page 23  
Business Diary, page 25

## Coins found in river

Coins, among them gold sovereigns and silver crowns, have been recovered from the Nene at Peterborough by police frogmen searching for a car.

## Sir A. Kirkbride dies

Sir Alec Kirkbride, the last surviving British officer to fight in the Arab revolt with Lawrence of Arabia, died yesterday at the age of 81.







# We'd like to take your son off your hands.

The cost of giving a son a good start in the Army has brought many a parent to a standstill. And even with the best qualifications it's often difficult to get the right job at the right time. Fortunately, there are a lot of different ways the Army can play a helpful part in a young life.

This advertisement leads you to investigate the possibilities it will have done us both a turn.

## If he's doing 'O' Levels.

If your boy is between 15½ and 16½ during the next seven months of next year, and he can get through our medical and interview he might win a year scholarship worth up to £385 p.a. We'll pay 60 of these each year. The idea is to make a career for boys who are keen on an Army career at school and study for their 'A' Levels, equivalent.

If your son succeeds in winning a scholarship after getting his 'A' Levels he won't have to pass any further examinations to get into the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst.

It's an alternative to keeping him at school, and he can apply for a place at Welbeck, the Army's sixth-form college, which provides an education designed for boys aiming at a commission in the Army's technical corps.

To qualify, he must be up to GCE or SCE level standard in English Language, Maths, Science and at least two other subjects, preferably history and a foreign language.

At the time of joining, in January or September, he must be aged between 15 years 9 months and 17 years 2 months.

He must pass a medical and a selection board. If he succeeds in getting satisfactory 'A' Level results at Welbeck it will earn him a place at Sandhurst. And from there a good chance of reading for a degree.

## If he's about to leave school and doesn't have or want a place at university.

If he's 18 and he's got 5 'O' Levels he can apply for a Short Service Commission - 3 years service with an option to leave after two years or extend up to 8 years.

# Sooner or later.

He'll have to pass our three-day selection board at Westbury which involves physical, written and oral tests of character, education and aptitude.

Then he's off to Sandhurst for a seven-month course on an Officer cadet's pay. After which he'll be piped and join his regiment.

On the other hand, if he's got two 'A' Levels and at least three 'O' Levels he might prefer to go for a Regular Commission. In which case he'll do his six months at Sandhurst.

A Regular Commission can be for any length of time up to the age of 55 but can be terminated at any time after 3 years.

Then again, your son might like the idea of doing a few months in the ranks to broaden his outlook and to learn to take orders before going to give them. In which case if recommended he could apply for an O Type engagement.

When he's done his time in the ranks he'll have to pass the Westbury selection board before he can go to Sandhurst. If he fails he can leave the Army without further ado. Of course, it could be that he's enjoying himself in the ranks and wants to stay on. In which case we'll be pleased to have him.

## If he has been offered a place at university.

If your son has a place at a university promised to him and he can pass our 3-day selection board at Westbury, we could give him a cadetship and pay him £2,161 p.a. plus his tuition fees while he's at university.

He'll go on a 3-week course at Sandhurst in September before he goes up to university, and he'll spend a few weeks of his summer vacation with his own regiment or corps, possibly abroad.

After he graduates we'll give him an 18-week course at Sandhurst. And we'll give him antedated seniority.

In return for all this we'll expect him to give the Army five years service - which for many people is even more of an education than university.

As an alternative, he could apply for a Bursary which works very much the same way as an Undergraduate Cadetship except that he'll only have to commit himself to three years service and will receive £900 p.a. in addition to his Local Education Authority Grant while he's at university instead of £2,161. He'll remain a civilian until he graduates.

## An alternative to the building site.

If your son is eighteen and has secured a place at university we may have a job for him before he goes up.

If he can pass the medical and our three-day selection board at Westbury we'll commission him as a 2nd Lieutenant for between four and eighteen months. The first three weeks will be at Sandhurst and the rest with a regiment wherever it happens to be, doing whatever it happens to be doing.

It's a great way to get a taste of Army life without any long-term commitment. We call it the Short Service Limited Commission.

## If he doesn't intend to go to university we may change his mind.

Every year we persuade 130 young Officers to go to university.

Some go immediately after their training at Sandhurst. Others serve a couple of years with their regiment first.

100 go to the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham to read for engineering degrees. 15 go to Cambridge to read science. Another 15 go to other universities to study for art degrees.

And if your son hasn't got the exams needed for university we can offer him a pre-university study course to help him get them.

## If he's at university and you're feeling the pinch.

If your son can meet the physical requirements and pass the selection board he can get a Bursary worth £900 p.a. in addition to his Local Education Authority Grant.

He'll remain a civilian while he's at university. When he graduates he'll go to Sandhurst and then complete a minimum of three years service.

He can apply for a Bursary regardless of whether he's started his university course or is about to start it.

Alternatively, of course, he can apply for an Undergraduate Cadetship as described above.

## If he has graduated or is about to graduate.

Assuming your son can pass the selection board, he can apply for either a Short Service Commission or a Regular Commission.

As a graduate, he'll be commissioned immediately and go to Sandhurst for a 20-week course.

Then he'll join his regiment.

We'll give him antedated seniority. This means that most of his time at university will be considered as service in the Army and will count towards promotion.

As a young officer he'll also have some opportunities for post-graduate studies of one kind or another.

## But will he like Army life?

One way to get some idea of whether Army life will suit him is by joining the OTC while he's still at university.

They arrange visits lasting up to five days to various Army Units. Visitors live in the mess and there's ample opportunity to talk to serving officers about Army life and to see the Units at work.

Brief visits can also be arranged independently of the OTC.

By the way, your son can take his time deciding whether or not to join. We commission people up to the age of 26. But for certain technical arms this is extended normally to 29.

And we're prepared to be extraordinarily accommodating and flexible to get them.

## If he shows signs of being interested.

Long winded though this advertisement has been, we've said nothing about the different jobs we offer. Or the rates of pay. Or promotion. Or the immense variety of tasks within the Army.

We would be delighted to expand on all these topics and to discuss the ways in which we may be able to meet your son's needs.

All he has to do is drop us a line and tell us about his current situation and his immediate plans.

We'll take it from there.

Tell him to write to Major G. D. MacDougall, Army Officer Entry, Dept. A63, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 6AA. He should state date of birth, educational qualifications and a summary of his life in general so far.



# Army Officer



## HOME NEWS

## Vital defence will be maintained if computer staff strike, MoD says

By Peter Hennessy

Ministers will soon be told that short-term protest action by civil servants against government computers will not affect military readiness. Defence contingency planners believe that armed services computer staff, who are employed exclusively on operational tasks, can maintain the nuclear deterrent, air defence, intelligence and front-line weapon systems dependent on automatic data processing.

The Ministry of Defence's conclusions are broadly similar to those of a separate study of the vulnerability of computer installations in the rest of Whitehall, prepared by the Civil Service Department details of which were published in *The Times* (November 20). The defence study similarly says that sabotage and natural disasters could be handled by transferring staff and programs to unaffected areas.

On the sensitive issue of industrial action, the Ministry of Defence, like the Civil Service Department, feels that a winter of disputes could be weathered without fatal damage to essential tasks, although with difficulty.

Supply, maintenance and spare part services, many of which have been adapted to computer systems, rely on

many civilian computer staff, however, and might be progressively disrupted during a long dispute. The planners expect that the operational efficiency of the Royal Navy, the Army and the RAF could become progressively affected by sustained action against the hundreds of administrative computers used by the Ministry of Defence.

The Ministry is the largest single user of computers in Britain, with 239 installations. The 143 models used for research and development have caused little concern to contingency planners, as disruption there would not affect priority work.

The most sensitive question is at what stage the operational capacity of the Services would be affected and to what extent. The Navy would probably be the most vulnerable, as all its shore-based supply and pay computers were civilian staff. The Army and the RAF have service computer staff mixed with civilians, some of whose work they could take over in extreme circumstances.

Many Servicemen are paid by cheque, and credit could be arranged with banks although the effect of late or inaccurate payments on morale has been considered.

## Fewer pupils should mean improvements, teachers say

By a Staff Reporter

The decrease in the number of pupils should be regarded as an opportunity to improve the quality of education rather than as a dilemma, a member of the executive of the National Union of Teachers said yesterday.

Mr Alfred Budd told a union conference in Newcastle upon Tyne that the falling pupil total should be used to reduce the size of classes, provide more

nursery education and improve the chances of the 14-to-19 age group.

Mr Donald Winters, another member of the union's executive, said 56,000 additional teachers would be needed to achieve pupil-teacher ratios that would eliminate all but 5 per cent of classes with more than 30 children. That was the target set in 1965 by the National Advisory Council on Training and Supply of Teachers.

## Jail doctor was not libelled; jury decides

A prison medical officer, said in a staff report to have appeared drunk before prisoners at Holloway women's prison, lost her High Court libel action yesterday.

Dr Manorama Legha faces costs estimated at about £25,000 as a result of the case.

Dr Legha, aged 50, of Wimpole Street, St Marylebone, London, sued Dr Margarita Stevenson, the prison's senior medical officer, who wrote the report in 1976.

It alleged that she was lazy, aggressive, lacked concern about her job, drank heavily and had a difficult personality. Dr Legha denied the allegations.

After a four-hour retirement, the jury, including four women, told Mr Justice Melford Stevenson that they found no libel.

The report alleged that Dr Legha was frequently drunk on duty and that, on Christmas Eve, 1976, she was "paralytic in full view of staff and inmates".

After the verdict, Dr Legha said: "I am terribly disappointed. I am considering an appeal."

Dr Stevenson, of First Street, Chelsea, said: "I am just very happy that it all over."

## Prisoner given punishment after protest

Michael Waigh, aged 21, who climbed on a roof at Durham jail six weeks ago and tore off slates in protest against being transferred from Gartree prison, Leicestershire, has been sentenced to four months in the punishment wing.

During his 21-hour demonstration he did damage amounting to £10,000, the visiting magistrates were told.



Mr William Whitelaw, deputy Tory leader, with children in the creche provided at Conservative Central Office yesterday.

## Tories offer politics without tears

By Penny Symon

A recruitment drive to encourage younger women to take part in political activity has been launched by Conservatives in the Greater London area.

Yesterday they held their first conference for women aged between 25 and 45, and a room in Conservative Central Office in Smith Square, Westminster, usually occupied by a party agent, was turned into a creche. About a dozen children played and ate sandwiches and crisps while their mothers joined other women in a down-

stairs room to listen to speakers exhorting them to become more involved in Conservative politics.

Mr William Whitelaw, deputy leader of the party, called in to give a few words of encouragement and then visited the creche. Perched on a small stool, he told the children that they were having very well indeed.

"Where's my mummy?" a tiny boy asked, a trifle worried. "She's downstairs, and you've got a funny man instead," Mr Whitelaw told him. He added: "You have all done jolly well, and nobody has cried yet."

The Conservative Party is anxious to increase the number of women between about 25 and 45 who are involved in political activity. It feels that after joining the Young Conservatives women tend to cease

political activity in favour of family and children.

Lady Young, a vice-chairman of the party with particular responsibility for women's organizations, said 1979 would be a busy year, with devolution referendums, local and European elections, and a general election.

"Therefore we want every volunteer that we can get, and we feel that women in this particular age group are key people in a constituency and they must be encouraged to come forward."

Mr Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brent, North, a party spokesman on education, told the conference that the return of direct grant schools under a Conservative government would again ensure that schools of high academic excellence were available to able children from the poorest homes.

## Early settlement hope in British air disputes

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

British government negotiators are increasingly optimistic of an early settlement of two aviation disputes, in which Britain is involved, with Malaysia, Norway, Denmark and Sweden.

The dispute with Malaysia involves the British Airways Concorde, which was barred from that country's airspace after only three flights between London and Singapore in December. New diplomatic contacts have recently been made with the Malaysians, and both the Government in London and British Airways are hopeful that super-sonic services will resume soon.

The Scandinavian countries gave notice in December that they wished to terminate their existing air services agreement with Britain by December 31 this year, and talks between the two sides to try to work out a new agreement have been going on spasmodically over the past 11 months.

According to the British side, the Scandinavians took their action because they were worried lest the main share of the scheduled air traffic between the two countries, Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS), and by British Airways should be eroded by licences issued in Britain to independent airlines.

Britain has pointed out that the real threat comes from charter flights, mainly originating in Scandinavia. Figures produced in London yesterday showed that the proportion of the total traffic carried by charter companies between the two sides reached 38.8 per cent

in 1977, compared with 33.7 per cent in 1976 and 28 per cent in 1975.

It has also been suggested that the Scandinavians that fares on the routes have been causing passengers, among many businessmen, to turn to charter. British Airways SAS have gone some way towards meeting that point by bringing in a range of advance purchase excursion rates within the past months.

Scandinavia has offered part of the new deal to all SAS services to Gatwick second London airport, to relieve the pressure at Heathrow. But Britain declines the offer on grounds that it would preclude conflict in air traffic on routes and because it would cause inconvenience passengers wanting to fly to and from Scandinavia at Heathrow.

Instead, the British side suggested that only services by both British and SAS should be referred, a proposal that a operation would be too expensive.

The next meeting between the two sides is due to take place in Stockholm on December 1. If an agreement has been reached by the deadline at the end of the year, set between Britain and Scandinavia will be suspended.

Government aviation officials said in London yesterday that they hoped to reach a ratification before long of an air services agreement between Britain and China, originally about five years ago. There have been few contacts between the two sides recently.

## Grant opens way for new battery of 'green berets'

From John Chartres

The Government's increased grant for army recruiting is enabling 29 Commando Regiment, Royal Artillery, to recruit an additional 84-man battery in Greater Manchester.

The regiment, whose members are the only soldiers entitled to wear the coveted Royal Marine Commando green beret, is usually based at Plymouth but, as part of 3 Commando Brigade, spends much of its time in the Arctic on the NATO northern flank and does much of its mountain training in the Cumbrian Lake District.

An army statement yesterday said that the regiment chose Greater Manchester as the area most likely to produce the exceptional soldiers it needed. About four fifths of the initial tests, which are designed to prove physical fitness, resilience and the aptitude for long periods in the Arctic, are in diving suits and firearms in exceptionally temperatures.

In spite of its Arctic 29 Commando Regiment recently served in Belize, Hong Kong, Cyprus and Ulster.

Recruiting teams are to Greater Manchester from week. It is hoped that recruits capable of passing tests will be found in the battery to become a national next year.

## More London buses

By Michael Bailey

London Transport plans to order 450 more buses in the new year with the aim of improving reliability on its routes from 1980. They will be similar to the 450 Leyland Tins and Metro-Cammell Metrobus double-deckers already on order and will cost about £22m.

The Greater London Council will have to approve the order but Dr Gordon Taylor, chairman of the GLC transport committee, left no doubt yesterday that it would do so. He said: "These new vehicles will mean that fewer buses will be off the road for repairs, thus increasing reliability, which is the key to an improved service."

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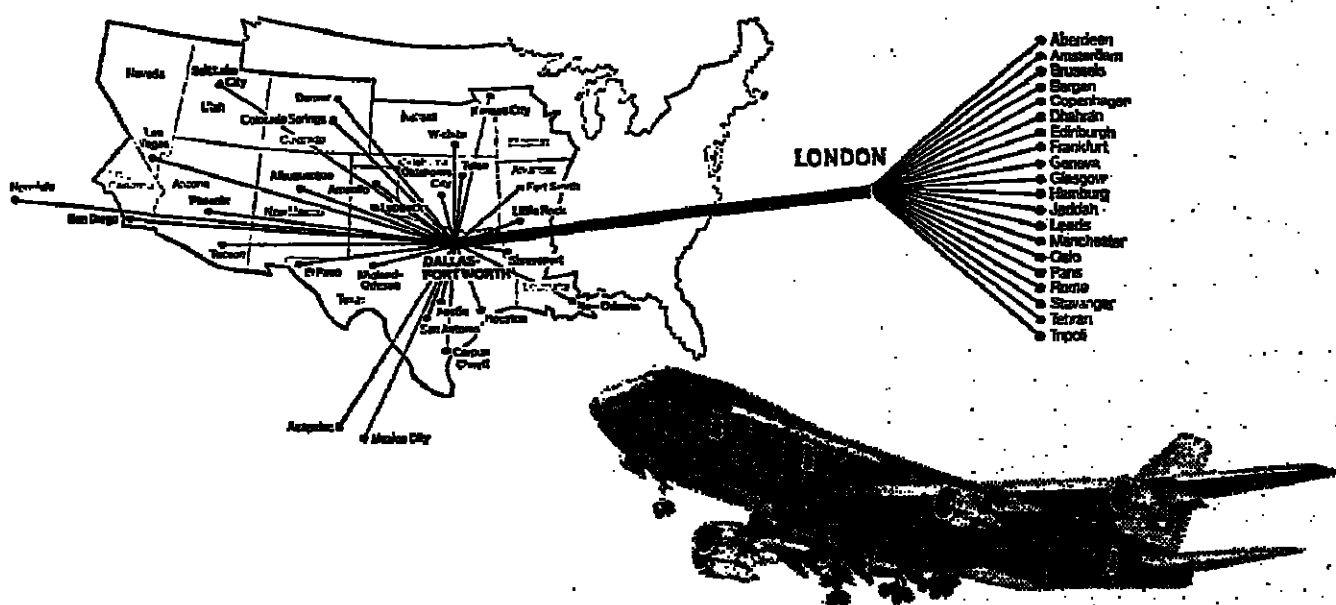
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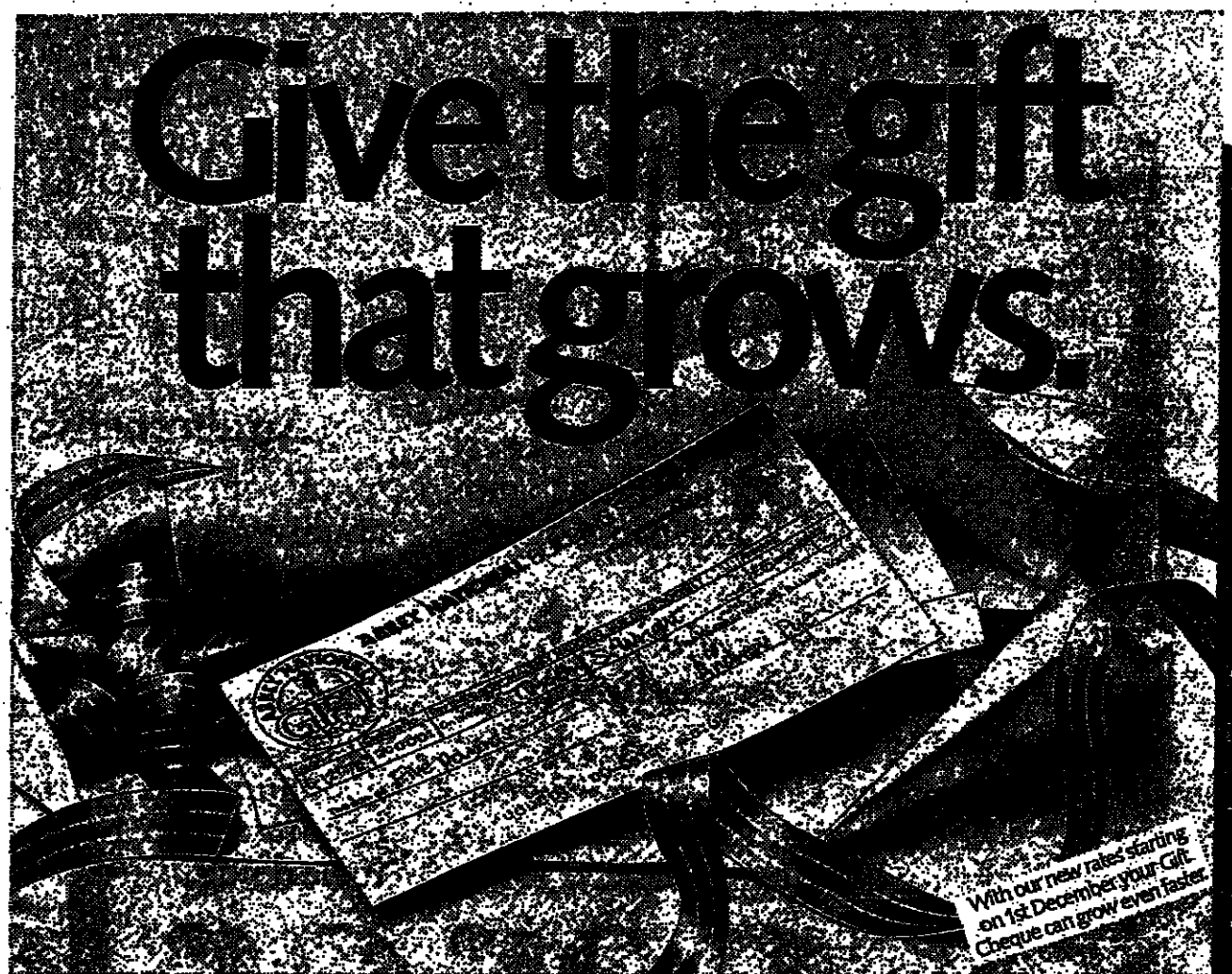
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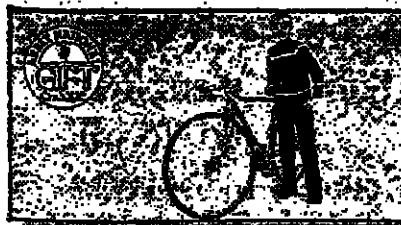
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## ME NEWS

## Health authority chairman calls for power to dismiss after report of Normansfield inquiry

Reporter  
Robson of Kiddingdon, a of the South West Regional Health Authority, said yesterday that the regional authority would decide next week how to deal with him.

She believed that Dr Lawlor would be asked to state his case. As a result of the inquiry report, the authority could take disciplinary action against him. "My view is that, whatever the outcome of the disciplinary action, Dr Lawlor should not be employed at Normansfield again," she said.

Asked whether he might be employed elsewhere, Lady Robson said that that might be a case for the General Medical Council to decide. She intended to send the report concerning matters of Dr Lawlor's clinical judgment to the GMC.

Miss Dorothy Barrett, chairman of the Kingston and Richmond Area Health Authority, said it would consider the report's recommendations and the criticisms of some senior staff.

The report recommended that a number of senior staff, who are still working for the authority and who should be dismissed, Miss Barrett said they would be dealt with under normal disciplinary

full pay since a strike by nurses called attention to appalling conditions at the hospital, should be dismissed from the NHS. Lady Robson said yesterday that the regional authority would decide next week how to deal with him.

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procedure as soon as possible. No one had resigned as a result of the report.

In answer to the criticism that conditions at the hospital were bad as recently as May this year, Miss Barrett said that because of the inquiry the authority had been unable to appoint permanent senior staff. She agreed that the area ambulance should have dealt with the matter earlier.

Lady Robson said that although the regional authority should have exerted greater pressure on the area ambulance, but power had to be delegated and an authority should not always be breathing down the neck of those to whom power was delegated.

Improved monitoring procedures had been suggested, Lady Robson said, but monitoring care at a hospital was terribly difficult.

She added that there were serious shortages of nurses and paramedical staff such as therapists at the hospital.

Decision soon, Lady Robson said. "The authority will take a decision on November 29 on how to deal with Dr Lawlor (see Press Association reports). My opinion is that they will ask him to come and state his case. If the disciplinary committee says he can be dismissed, I can sack him."

## Householders likely to face increases rates of over 10 per cent next year

Stephen Warman  
Environment

Government is likely another year of tight spending in order to contain services at their level unless councils are to charge ratepayers more.

Mr Peter Shore, Secretary for the Environment, announced the Government's support for the ratepayers' campaign to pitch the rate within the limits of the 10 per cent guidelines and limits on local authorities that will give little room for manoeuvre.

Financial straitjacket on local authorities by Government, using them as a means of economic control, is a small amount of a local services built public spending estimate since many councils

have had to cut services in the past year or two it is likely that most improvements will only restore the position.

Mr Shore is most unlikely to increase the grant beyond the present level, and that is almost certain to mean rate increases for householders of more than a tenth next year. This year, the average increase was 9.7 per cent, according to the Department of the Environment, and 11 per cent according to the Rating and Valuation Association, depending on the method of estimating.

For many domestic ratepayers next year the increase may be higher than the 10 per cent estimate.

Several factors in the complicated calculation account for that, including the Government's decision to give part of the needs element of the grant, which has previously gone only to county councils, to the non-metropolitan district councils. It is probably the most controversial issue in this year's rate-support grant, constantly added to the metropolitan areas will now be at least allowed.

District Councils and consistently opposed by the Association of County Councils. The counties believe that it might lead to higher spending by some districts, while the counties will have no savings on their costs, and that means higher rates.

Because of the way in which the needs element is distributed, it also adds the more urban areas, with their higher proportion of single-parent families and children in care. That may be correct, but it means that the more rural areas will receive less grant and as a result householders will face higher rate increases to pay for their services.

Both the non-metropolitan counties and districts have been complaining for the past three years about the transfer in government resources to the large towns and cities. When Mr Shore was asked a few weeks ago if they could expect a reversal of the trend, he replied with an emphatic "No", but it is likely that the flow of aid to the metropolitan areas will now be at least allowed.



"Road to ruin": Between 25,000 and 50,000 buildings in Britain listed as of historical or architectural interest, about a tenth of the total, are derelict or in urgent need of repair, according to a report published yesterday (see Planning Reporter writes). One example given is Exeter Court, Stamford, (above), a row of cottages recently compulsorily acquired by South Kesteven district council. The purchase order was confirmed only after three public inquiries and the serving of preservation and dangerous structure notices. Renovation has yet to begin. The report, by Mr Timothy Cantell, of the Civic Trust, and Mr George Adlan, a barrister and town planner, was commissioned by Save Britain's Heritage, the conservation group, and appears in this week's issue of *The Architects' Journal*. It says: "All over the country buildings

faster year after year, their road to ruin is being paved by the unwilling or incapable owners and weak-willed officials. The variety is enormous: Georgian terraces, country houses, farmhouses, churches and chapels, towers and gateways, shops and cinemas, halls and public houses. Our architectural heritage is being dissipated through an accommodating loophole," it continues. "We have set up an elaborate system for listing historic buildings, and for carefully considering proposals to alter or demolish them. It is in most cases quite difficult to get consent to knock down a listed building. But no consent is needed for neglect, which is an easy loophole for the unscrupulous and a tempting one for the unimaginative." Last year, in two of three applications for demolition consent, the condition of the building was given as a main reason. The report says that even when owners can be forced to repair properties, the amount of public money

available is inadequate. The Historic Buildings Council can make grants only for the repair of so-called outstanding buildings. It recommends that private owners should be granted relief from income tax for approved repairs to listed buildings, and companies given the incentive of higher tax depreciation allowances. Civil servants should study the United States Tax reform Act, 1976, which contains measures designed to encourage the rehabilitation. It also suggests that the Government should establish an historic buildings centre to provide information for prospective purchasers, an historic buildings agency, with powers to make compulsory purchases and repairs, and a national network of buildings preservation trusts. Local authorities should have improved powers to require repairs to be made or, failing that, to do the work themselves and recover the money under a new Historic Buildings (Repair) Act.

## Change in prosecutions for pornography

By Our Legal Correspondent

The Metropolitan Police will take over the conduct of most prosecutions for pornography from the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Under an arrangement reached between Mr Tony Hetherington, QC, the DPP, and Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, most prosecutions under the Obscene Publications Acts, 1959 and 1964, will be brought by the police in future.

The change is not in the law but in administration. The

police will still be under the ultimate control of the DPP's department, which will continue to deal with the more serious and sensitive cases, as well as with those areas of pornography specifically reserved to the DPP, such as 18mm films.

Although the new arrangement can be seen as merely bringing London's police in line with forces in the rest of Britain as far as their relationship with the DPP is concerned, it is bound to result in a difference of emphasis in prosecution policy.

## Union threatens to block ambulance fuel supplies

From Arthur Osman  
Birmingham

There were only 46 ambulances available for emergency calls in the West Midlands yesterday as the Transport and General Workers' Union threatened to stop fuel supplies in the dispute between some ambulance crews and the regional health authority.

Talks on the dispute over bonus payments have broken down because crews refuse to return to work. The IGWU and the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) said they would not resume discussions until their members who had been suspended received full pay since being "locked out" last week.

The national executive of Nupe is to be recommended to make the dispute official, which might affect other health service workers such as maintenance men, porters and some nursing staff.

Sir David Parris, chairman of the West Midlands Regional Health Authority, who is also secretary of Birmingham Trades Council, appealed to both unions yesterday to return to work.

Other home news, page 30

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## THORPE CONSPIRACY CASE

## Mr Bessell on why he ended friendship

From Michael Horsnell  
and Trevor Fishlock  
Minehead

The allegation that Lord Goodman had suggested a cover-up plan to help to protect Jeremy Thorpe was no part of the prosecution's case, Mr Peter Taylor, QC, for the prosecution said at the start of the third day of the conspiracy case hearing at Minehead Magistrate's Court, yesterday.

In his evidence on Tuesday, Mr Peter Bessell, the former Liberal MP, for Bodmin, stated that David Holmes, the former Liberal Party deputy treasurer, had told him that Lord Goodman suggested a plan in connection with the prosecution case. It is not part of the prosecution case, and in fact, the evidence of Mr Bessell was not directly to that effect. It was simply that Mr Holmes had told Mr Bessell about Lord Goodman.

Before Mr Bessell resumed his evidence, Mr Taylor said: "I should like to make a statement on behalf of the Crown. Some of the reports in today's newspapers, particularly the headlines, may have given the impression that there has been direct evidence of Lord Goodman suggesting a plan in connection with the prosecution case. It is not part of the prosecution case, and in fact, the evidence of Mr Bessell was not directly to that effect. It was simply that Mr Holmes had told Mr Bessell about Lord Goodman."

## Conversations recorded

Much of Mr Bessell's evidence, and early cross-examination of him, concerned the records he kept on the Thorpe affair, and his relationship with Mr Barrie Penrose and Mr Roger Courtiour, authors of the *Pencourt File*, which is about the Thorpe case.

Mr Bessell said that in the autumn of 1976 he wrote a detailed account of what he could recall of the Thorpe case.

He was asked by Mr John Mathew, QC, for the defence of Mr Holmes, about the letter he sent in January, 1976, to Mr Michael Barnes, Mr Scott's solicitor at that time. In the letter he said he had been blackmailed by Mr Scott; and the intention of the letter, the court has been told, was to help to keep Mr Scott quiet.

Mr Bessell said his first contact with Mr Penrose and Mr

Courtour was in May or June, 1976. They telephoned eight or 10 times and he recorded some of the conversations. They visited him in California in October of that year and he discovered later that they had taped some of the conversations.

The two journalists were present when Det Chief Supt Michael Challes and Det Supt David Greenough visited him in December, 1977. He saw the police again last March, when he made his main statement.

He had a copy of a final corrected statement and had referred to it before giving evidence at those proceedings.

Cross-examined by Sir David Napley, for the defence of Mr Thorpe, Mr Bessell said that Mr Thorpe had performed a number of kindnesses for him and many kindnesses for other people. "He is, by nature, an exceedingly generous man," he said.

Sir David asked: "Would you quarrel with the suggestion that there is not any cruelty in him?"

After a long pause Mr Bessell replied: "I think he is capable of cruelty."

Mr Bessell said he had regarded Mr Thorpe as a true friend and he felt he had been a true friend to Mr Thorpe.

Sir David: When did that cease to be?

Mr Bessell: When I informed the *Daily Mail* that I had lied on his behalf.

Sir David asked why Mr Bessell had ceased to be Mr Thorpe's friend. Mr Bessell replied that he did not believe he could continue to sustain a false position, damaging to the Liberal Party, which was a false position.

On the matter of Mr Bessell's immunity from prosecution, Sir David read out the guarantee of immunity. It said:

No criminal proceedings will be instituted by the police or any other prosecuting authority against Mr Bessell in respect of matters forming part of the subject matter of the proceedings against John Jeremy Thorpe and others, or in respect of matters which may be referred to in court in such proceedings. And in the event of any private prosecution of Mr Bessell, in respect of any such matter, the Director of Public Prosecutions will assume responsibility for the conduct of these proceedings and will not proceed against Mr Bessell.

Mr Bessell said the question of immunity from prosecution was first raised at his attorney's office in Los Angeles in December last year, "when I stated I was not seeking immunity." He had eventually accepted immunity on the advice of his solicitors in London.

Sir David told Mr Bessell: "You started out as a man who did not want immunity at all, and finished with immunity wider than anything I have ever seen in the course of a long

practice." Mr Bessell said he had taken his lawyers' advice. Mr Bessell said his doctor was treating him for the effects of a suspected coronary attack, which occurred in 1974. At one time he had been a lay preacher.

Mr Bessell agreed with Sir David that not only had the phraseology of his evidence followed closely the statements he had made but it also followed closely the phraseology in the *Pencourt File*. Where the *Pencourt File* concerned him, it followed his own side memoir. He had spent five days with Mr Penrose and Mr Courtiour.

Referring to the *Pencourt File*, Mr Bessell said that two journalists might have received one or two photocopies from him. "I believe they did. They gave me photocopies of press cuttings. As to arguments, yes, we argued."

He agreed that he had told lies intentionally to Mr Penrose and Mr Courtiour when they met at his home in California.



Mr Peter Taylor, QC; Crown counsel.

He also said in answer to Sir David that at the same time, in 1967, he promised support to both Mr Thorpe and Mr Emyln Hooson, QC, MP, when each was aiming for the leadership of the Liberal Party.

Of his discussions with Mr Penrose and Mr Courtiour, Mr Bessell said: "In the matter before the court, I took care that everything I told them was the truth."

He added that he did tell them some lies to put them to the test. He regarded them as being a little too credulous about information they had been given by Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Cheesman, of Bonington, Kent, about "some vast

John Jeremy Thorpe, aged 49, is accused with David Holmes, aged 48, a former deputy treasurer of the Liberal Party, and two South Wales businessmen, George Deakin, aged 35, and John Le Mesurier, aged 46, of conspiring to murder Norman Scott. He is also charged with unlawfully inciting Mr Holmes to kill Mr Scott. Reporting restrictions have been lifted.

plot about that involved espionage and similar matters, and which I found it difficult to take seriously."

"I knew they were doing this to write a book. Some of the lies I told them to test them appeared in the book."

The only matter on which I gave them false information was in regard to my own activities in relation to the United States Government. I was partly to test them and partly to assist them in their inquiries in Washington, DC.

"I had decided to write a book about the matters into which this court is inquiring. After a second visit of the police to me, I commenced the writing of the book, and eventually appointed an agent."

"It would not be right to say I had worked closely with Mr Penrose and Mr Courtiour in the preparation of their book. I did not collaborate with them."

Mr Bessell agreed with Sir David that in a letter to Lady Falkender he used the phrase "as you know, I worked fairly closely with Barrie and Roger in the preparation of their book."

Mr Bessell said that a letter Mr Scott had sent to Mr Thorpe's mother, Mrs Ursula Thorpe, was discussed.

Mr Bessell spoke of a lunch he had in 1965 with Mr James Collier, a friend of Mr Thorpe, with whom Mr Scott was staying. Mr Bessell said he asked Mr Collier if he thought there was any truth in allegations made by Mr Scott (who at that time was in Ireland).

"Mr Thorpe had said to me he wondered how much the Colliers knew, and that was the purpose of arranging the lunch."

Mr Bessell said he was anxious to know how much Mr Scott had gossiped in the West Country.

According to a statement made by Mr Collier, Mr Bessell had said at the lunch: "There is only one way to deal with this. I shall have to go to Ireland and meet this man myself."

Mr Bessell told the court that Mr Collier was mistaken in his recollection.

Mr Bessell said that between 1965 and 1967 he had no contact with Mr Scott. He learned that Mr Scott wished to go to the United States and "this was something I wished very very much to achieve and so did Mr Thorpe."

After sending the second letter Mr Scott went to see him and it was after that that he began sending Mr Scott money. Mr Bessell added: "Payments were made through my company and it is not true that I got tax relief on them. They were £50,000."

Mr Bessell said that the amount of the payments was £500 to £700 and Mr Thorpe repaid some of this money in cash.

Sir David asked him about "charades" devised by himself and a Liberal supporter, in which someone would pose as a reporter from the German news magazine *Der Spiegel* in an effort to retrieve from Mr Scott letters written by Mr Thorpe. Mr Bessell agreed that that, and the talk of a murder plan, both involved the same ruse.

Mr Bessell said he spoke to the manager of the Weymouth employment exchange, explaining Mr Scott's position, and the manager had said he would provide emergency funds and issue an emergency card.

Mr Bessell said he was afraid of what Mr Scott might say to the manager and had therefore warned the man that Mr Scott was unstable and in a very excited condition. He had warned the manager to ignore any allegations Mr Scott might make and he gave a similar warning the same day to the manager of another exchange near Milton Abbas, where Mr Scott was living.

Asked by Sir David about a meeting he had had with Mr George Thomas, then Parlia- mentary Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office and a further meeting with Sir Frank Soskice, QC, (now Lord Stow Hill), Mr Bessell said it was probably his idea to make those arrangements.

Mr Bessell added: "Lord Stow Hill says in the *Pencourt File* that it was his idea that they should treat the young

spring of 1965 with Mr Thorpe in a chamber dining room of the House of Commons.

He said: "My object was to test certain suspicions I had. I endeavoured to win his confidence by telling him that in my youth I, too, had had homosexual tendencies."

"I wanted to confirm my suspicion because a number of people had put to me at one time or another that they thought he might be homosexual. I confirmed my suspicions."

At the time I was campaigning for him and assisting him in an endeavour to succeed to the leadership of the Liberal Party. Unquestionably, I considered he was the best person to do so and indeed I told him so."

Questioned by Sir David, Mr Bessell added: "I did not tell Mr Hooson he was the best person to do it. At the time when the election was announced, Mr Hooson asked if I would give him my support, and initially I said 'yes'. But I quickly changed my mind and informed Mr Hooson that I would not give him my support."

"Mr Hooson had indicated to me at some point, I do not recall clearly when, that he might consider the leadership of the Liberal Party if it were offered to him, and I believe I said to him that he might make a very good leader."

"It is possible that I was telling Mr Thorpe and Mr Hooson at the same time that each of them was the best man to lead the party, but I do not believe that anyone among the parliamentary group had any doubt that my full support would be given, as it was, to Mr Thorpe."

At a lunch with Mr Thorpe at the Ritz Hotel in London in 1965, Mr Bessell said that a letter Mr Scott had sent to Mr Thorpe's mother, Mrs Ursula Thorpe, was discussed.

Mr Bessell spoke of a lunch he had in 1965 with Mr James Collier, a friend of Mr Thorpe, with whom Mr Scott was staying. Mr Bessell said he asked Mr Collier if he thought there was any truth in allegations made by Mr Scott (who at that time was in Ireland).

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Mr Bessell added: "Lord Stow Hill says in the *Pencourt File* that it was his idea that they should treat the young

man rough and not allow him to get any hold over Jeremy Thorpe. I agree with that account of the matter. I did not think that when Lord Stow Hill said that he meant to kill him."

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Mr Bessell told the court that Mr Collier was mistaken in his recollection.

Mr Bessell said that between 1965 and 1967 he had no contact with Mr Scott. He learned that Mr Scott wished to go to the United States and "this was something I wished very very much to achieve and so did Mr Thorpe."

After sending the second letter Mr Scott went to see him and it was after that that he began sending Mr Scott money. Mr Bessell added: "Payments were made through my company and it is not true that I got tax relief on them. They were £50,000."

Mr Bessell said that the amount of the payments was £500 to £700 and Mr Thorpe repaid some of this money in cash.

Sir David asked him about "charades" devised by himself and a Liberal supporter, in which someone would pose as a reporter from the German news magazine *Der Spiegel* in an effort to retrieve from Mr Scott letters written by Mr Thorpe. Mr Bessell agreed that that, and the talk of a murder plan, both involved the same ruse.



Barrie Penrose (left) and Roger Courtiour, the author of a book about the Thorpe case.

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Mr Bessell spoke of a lunch he had in 1965 with Mr James Collier, a friend of Mr Thorpe, with whom Mr Scott was staying. Mr Bessell said he asked Mr Collier if he thought there was any truth in allegations made by Mr Scott (who at that time was in Ireland).

"Mr Thorpe had said to me he wondered how much the Colliers knew, and that was the purpose of arranging the lunch."

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Mr Bessell said he spoke to the manager of the Weymouth employment exchange, explaining Mr Scott's position, and the manager had said he would provide emergency funds and issue an emergency card.

Mr Bessell said he was afraid of what Mr Scott might say to the manager and had therefore warned the man that Mr Scott was unstable and in a very excited condition. He had warned the manager to ignore any allegations Mr Scott might make and he gave a similar warning the same day to the manager of another exchange near Milton Abbas, where Mr Scott was living.

Asked by Sir David about a meeting he had had with Mr George Thomas, then Parlia- mentary Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office and a further meeting with Sir Frank Soskice, QC, (now Lord Stow Hill), Mr Bessell said it was probably his idea to make those arrangements.

Mr Bessell added: "Lord Stow Hill says in the *Pencourt File* that it was his idea that they should treat the young

man rough and not allow him to get any hold over Jeremy Thorpe. I agree with that account of the matter. I did not think that when Lord Stow Hill said that he meant to kill him."

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Mr Bessell said he spoke to the manager of the Weymouth employment exchange, explaining Mr Scott's position, and the manager had said he would provide emergency funds and issue an emergency card.

Your wife's father asked Lord (John) Foot to tell creditors that no one knew where you were? — I cannot say that.

Mr Bessell agreed that he was in debt to the extent of about £250,000 when he "disappeared" in the United States.

At about that time, in 1974, while he was in California Lord (John) Foot started negotiations with his creditors on behalf of Mr Frederick Miller, his future father-in-law.

Mr Bessell said that basically he did not know much about those negotiations, though he denied that he had pretended to dis-

appear so that his creditors might accept a lower settlement. Sir David asked him if it was with his knowledge that Mr Miller was trying to settle with his creditors. Mr Bessell replied: "After he commenced the negotiations with Lord Foot, I was told that they were in hand."

Sir David asked him what was the point of not getting his future wife, Diane Kelly, to put him in touch with Mr Miller.

Mr Bessell replied: "The decision was made between my wife and her father while she was visiting him in August, 1974. Ultimately, when I learnt of the decision that had been taken and of the negotiations, Lord Foot was carrying out."

It was then in touch with my wife, as she was in, and gave her any information for which she asked on behalf of her father."

Sir David asked him why he did not, through his wife, communicate to her father to assist him to help her.

Mr Bessell replied: "I did communicate with my father-in-law for assistance after I knew what the proposal was. I did not think there would be a great prospect of my creditors taking a smaller sum in view of my disappearance. They received 17 per cent of their claims and, judging by the correspondence, I received from many of them afterwards, they were satisfied with that settlement."

Sir David suggested that he had kept himself incommunicado until after the negotiations had been completed.

Mr Bessell replied: "I kept myself incommunicado because I thought it was wiser to keep my name out of the papers. A settlement would be made and it would give me an opportunity to rehabilitate myself."

"I was living openly under my own name at Oceanside, in which I was a business man, and I was known to the local community as a Californian driver's licence, and if anyone had made a serious attempt to find me he could have done so."

"I was concerned with negotiations on behalf of Mr Jack Bayward (a businessman and Liberal Party benefactor). It was a transaction involving several million pounds if it came about. I was endeavouring to arrange the sale of several of his houses in America."

"My reward would have been to receive a commission. This would have depended on the price of the properties concerned, probably in the region of \$1m. This was taking place over the period covering December, 1973."

In reply to a suggestion that he was claiming at the time that he might commit suicide, Mr Bessell said: "Yes, it was suggested by me or on my behalf that due to my dire financial state, that I might com-

mit suicide. A request was made to expedite the completion of this transaction."

Mr Bessell then alleged that he had been involved with Mr Thorpe in a bribe involving \$500,000 over his possible suicide. The victim of the bribe was to be Mr Hayward.

"Mr Thorpe and I did pretend that if a bribe were paid of \$500,000 this would facilitate a transaction. I am saying this was not entirely my own device. I have written letters to the contrary. These letters were not true."

Sir David asked him the purpose of writing the letters. Mr Bessell replied: "My purpose was to protect your client (Mr Thorpe). I have told the fact before. I communicated the fact to Supt Michael Challes. That was because I knew the matter would be raised, probably in the course of these proceedings. It was not because I was adept at foreseeing such eventualities."

"The letters I wrote were written to Mr Thorpe, personally, with covering letters, have got copies of them. I have not handed them to the police. It did not occur to me to do so."

Mr Bessell said the letter I had written to Mr Thorpe contained an abject apology. I added that Mr Hayward was a benefactor of the Liberal Party's cause."

Sir David asked him: "A you telling us that Mr Thorpe was a party to perpetrating fraud on Mr Hayward?"

Mr Bessell replied: "I am telling the court that Mr Thorpe was endeavouring to perpetrate fraud on Mr Hayward. And from the police, I also told, father-in-law."

"I also told Mr Hayward that Mr Thorpe was involved. I wrote this letter July this year, to Mr Challes, in which I stated before what happened in Divisional Court."

"To make it plain, I had prepared a memo before I left United States and brought with me. This was not one letter which was mentioned in court for which solicitors wanted immunity."

Asked by Sir David how he hoped to protect Mr Thorpe, Bessell replied: "By writing letter of apology I assured myself that it would not end his relationship with Hayward or cause Mr Hayward to cease to be a benefactor of the Liberal Party."

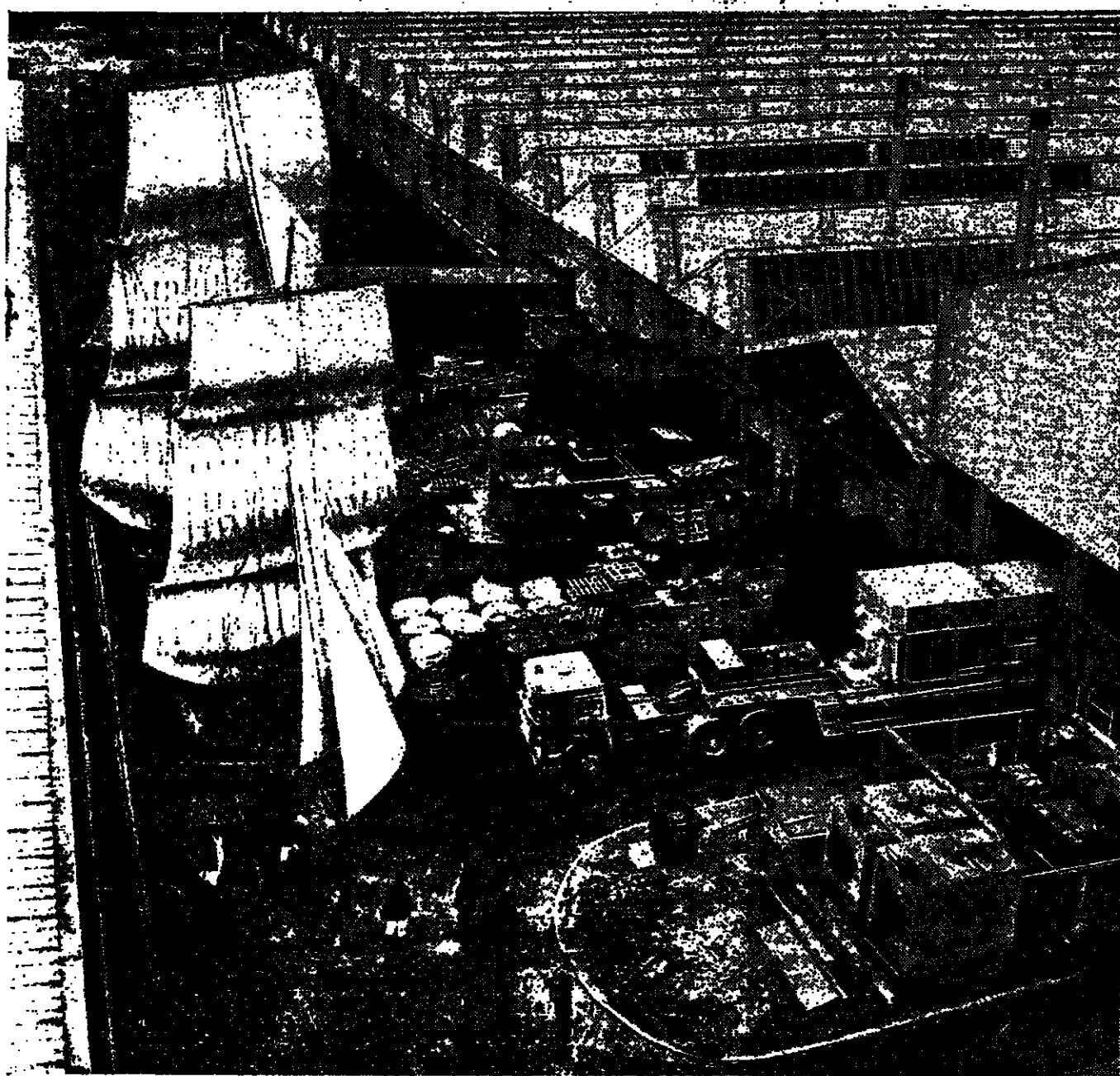
Mr Hayward had lent me substantial sum, £25,000, a car, and a bank. He had done it because I was glad to be the verge of suicide."

Referring again to the letter he alleged to have written to Mr Thorpe to protect him over the bribe, Mr Bessell said: "When I wrote the letter Mr Thorpe to protect him, far as I recall I wrote him a letter before I disappeared. I added that the letter was an apology to Mr Thorpe, and I added: 'I have a voluntary, he replied: "Because I assumed that Mr Hayward would conclude that the matter was entirely my fault, but the thought Mr Thorpe directly involved. I wished to protect Mr Thorpe's position."

In further cross-examination Mr Bessell said: "I have decided in telling a number of lies over a period in several cases they were very experienced journalists. On occasions, they have accepted what was telling the truth."

Asked why he had a credibility problem now, Mr Bessell said: "I have a wife has also said this, but do not know, I accept that I am a problem to know when I am telling the truth and when I am not."

The hearing continues tomorrow. Letters, page 10.



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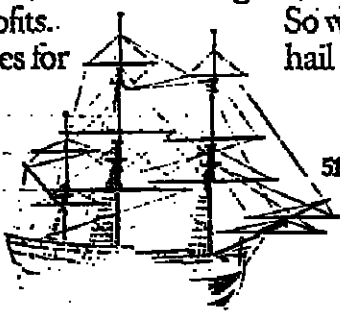
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Nov 22  
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Nov 22  
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Gendarmerie of the sea proposed  
by French to protect coasts

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Nov 22  
The special parliamentary  
committees set up to investigate  
the circumstances of the wreck-  
ing of the supertanker Amoco  
Cadiz off the Finistere coast of  
France last March, has recom-  
mended the creation of special  
areas in the Channel and the  
Mediterranean, where the  
coastal states would have in-  
creased powers over shipping.  
In a report published today,  
it proposes a modification of  
international maritime law to  
make this possible. The  
committees would allow the  
authorities of these states to  
stop ships which constitute a  
hazard to shipping.  
But the most original sugges-  
tion of the committee is the  
creation, after the American  
model, of a corps of coast-  
guards with the responsibility  
for applying the new regula-  
tions on navigation in these  
special areas.  
They would be the gendar-  
merie of the sea. M. Guy  
Götzmann, the Gaullist deputy

for Finistère, told the press  
after presenting the report. He  
had gone to the United States  
to see the American Coast  
Guard at work.  
They would have tugs,  
heavy helicopters and patrol  
ships at their disposal, as well  
as intervention teams. He said  
of the new corps, which would  
come under the Defence  
Ministry, but have its own  
budget. It would take five  
years to set up.  
The report of the committee,  
which includes members of all  
political parties, was approved  
unanimously. It suggests that  
the system of separation be-  
tween up and down traffic  
which will come into force off  
Ushant on January 1, should be  
extended throughout the length  
of the Channel, to the Pas de  
Calais, and the channels kept  
under observation through  
radar buoys and a central con-  
trol station.  
In addition, navigation  
channels should be set up  
between Corsica and Sardinia,  
and in the Gulf of Bonifacio,  
the report suggests.

The committee also insists on  
the need for extending the  
international conventions on  
hydrocarbons to the transport  
of chemical and radioactive  
substances. Further it pro-  
poses a systematic exchange of  
information between coastal  
states about ships and their  
characteristics. The speedy  
ratification of the EEC conven-  
tion on the qualifications of  
crews and a thorough-going  
reform of the system of sea  
rescue.  
The report proposes the  
setting up of an European  
anti-pollution agency which  
would collate information about  
shipping accidents and the  
methods used in dealing with  
them in a central data bank.  
It would have at its disposal  
a special intervention corps of  
600 specialists trained in deal-  
ing with pollution problems,  
which could be sent rapidly to  
danger spots.  
The committee considers  
that in addition to insurance  
ships and their cargoes, it is  
essential to insure in future  
coastal activities also.

Veto threat by Britain on farm prices

From Our Own Correspondent  
Brussels, Nov 22  
A warning that Britain may  
in future seek to use its  
powers of veto to block ex-  
cessive increases in EEC agricul-  
tural expenditure was issued  
today by Mr. Joel Barnett,  
Chief Secretary at the Treas-  
ury. Mr. Barnett let it be  
known that he was studying  
closely the legal implications  
of France's unprecedented

attempts at a meeting of EEC  
budget ministers earlier this  
week to veto a 60 per cent  
increase in the money avail-  
able to the Community's  
regional fund.  
The fund is designed to dis-  
tribute wealth more evenly  
throughout the EEC, and  
Britain, along with Ireland and  
Italy, is one of the principal  
beneficiaries. However, the  
amount spent on regional

policy is only about a tenth of  
that spent on agricultural  
policy.  
Mr. Barnett feels that the un-  
successful French attempts to  
use the veto have created a  
new legal situation with  
"potentially important possi-  
bilities" for Britain. Although it  
is too late to do anything  
about the budget for 1979,  
Britain will be considering  
its position carefully.

Britain's potato  
import ban  
given support

From Our Own Correspondent  
Brussels, Nov 22  
The British ban on the import  
of potatoes from other EEC  
member states is legal under  
the terms of Britain's Treaty  
of Accession to the Com-  
munity, the Advocate General  
of the European Court of Jus-  
tice said in Luxembourg today.  
The court's nine judges are  
expected to deliver a final ver-  
dict on the ban before  
Christmas. The Advocate  
General's opinion, contained in  
his summary-up, will be in-  
fluential, but need not neces-  
sarily be followed by the  
judges.  
The case arose out of a com-  
plaint lodged by a Dutch  
potato exporter with a court in  
Brussels, which referred the  
matter to Luxembourg for an  
interpretation of EEC law.

Mr Kadar takes  
softer line on  
Eurocommunism

From Sue Masterman  
Vienna, Nov 22  
Mr. Janos Kadar, the First  
Secretary of the Hungarian  
Communist Party has stated that  
where more countries come  
under communist rule, it would  
be possible and even probable  
for them to have a multi-party  
system.  
Speaking earlier this week on  
the 40th anniversary of the  
Hungarian republic, Mr. Kadar  
did not mention any countries,  
but was believed to be referring  
to Italy and other such coun-  
tries, where communist  
majority in the future is  
theoretically possible.  
He said: "In the current dis-  
cussions between the different  
social systems concerning  
democracy and human rights,  
the defenders of the capitalist  
system tend to act as though  
the one-party state and dicta-  
torship are typical of the com-  
munist system."  
This was not always neces-  
sarily the case, he said. Coun-  
tries with a historically demo-  
cratic system would be able to  
retain that system even when  
being ruled by a communist  
majority.  
The single or multi-party  
system is not a matter of dogma  
but a practical political ques-  
tion, which has to be settled by  
individual countries against the  
background of their traditional  
and social structure.  
At the end of an official visit  
to Vienna last week, Mr. Kadar  
described Eurocommunism as  
"a relatively vague and contro-  
versial concept".

Paris police spring trap for  
man they say was 'brain'  
behind Empain kidnapping

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, Nov 22  
The French police claim to  
have captured the "brain"  
behind the kidnapping of  
Baron Edouard-Jean Empain,  
the Belgian multi-millionaire  
industrialist, in the Paris flat  
he used as a hide-out.  
Baron Empain was kidnapped  
last January as he was leaving  
his Paris home and was kept  
chained hand and foot in a  
cellar for 63 days until his  
release.  
In March, at the time of the  
handing over of 40 million  
francs (£4.7m) ransom money  
on a motorway south of Paris,  
one man was killed in an  
exchange of shots with the  
police and another man, M.  
Alain Caillol, was arrested.  
After interrogation, M. Caillol  
telephoned his accomplices to  
tell them they must release  
their victim. Three other people  
were arrested in the following  
months.  
Yesterday afternoon in Paris  
the police arrested M. Georges  
Bertocini, tenant of a villa at  
Savigny-sur-Orge, south-east of  
the capital, where Baron  
Empain was held in captivity.  
Arrested with his friend, Marie-  
Annick Legayan, on an inter-  
national warrant in Lisbon last  
June, he succeeded in escaping  
from prison while awaiting  
extradition.  
The police, who had heard  
that he was back in Paris from  
South America and hiding in  
the flat of a friend, arrested  
him as he was coming out of a  
café.  
At the flat, the police say



Baron Empain. Back in Paris after recuperation in the United States.

they found a machine gun, four  
revolvers, and 200 forged 500-  
franc notes. Yesterday evening  
police also arrested M. François  
Caillol, brother of M. Alain  
Caillol.  
Alain was given the manage-  
ment of the Montpellier branch  
of the prosperous family firm  
which sells bookcase units,  
furniture, while François ran an  
import-export business.  
The police believe that the  
whole plan for the kidnapping  
of Baron Empain was con-  
ceived and carried out under  
the direction of M. François  
Caillol.

Court orders arrest  
of Madrid editor

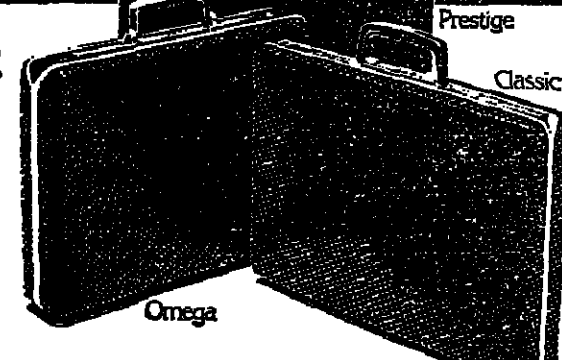
From Harry Debelius  
Madrid, Nov 22  
Warrants for the arrest of the  
managing editor and a colum-  
nist of the right-wing Madrid  
Daily, El Imparcial, in con-  
nection with last week's thwarted  
Spanish coup attempt, were  
issued in Madrid today.  
The newspaper, according to  
informed sources, is suspected  
of having been used to transmit  
coded messages to plotters who  
intend to overthrow the Govern-  
ment and halt Spain's march  
toward constitutional democ-  
racy.  
The managing editor named in  
the magistrate's order is  
Señor Julio Merino. The  
columnist is known only by his  
pseudonym, Merlin.  
The Regency Council, which  
assumes the functions of the  
chief of state in his absence,  
met here today, presumably to  
discuss the attempted coup  
d'état. It was the council's  
second meeting since King  
Juan Carlos left last Friday for  
a 15-day tour of Latin America.  
At the same time, the con-  
gressional committee of  
political party spokesmen also  
met in the Cortes (Parliament),  
at the urgent petition of the  
Spanish Socialist Workers'  
Party, to consider whether to  
call on the Government for a  
more complete report on the  
plot.  
The conservative Popular  
Alliance yesterday criticized  
the Government for "spare  
and confusing information"  
about the matter. It added  
that the Government was partly  
responsible for the incidents.  
In particular the Interior and  
Defence ministers, who have  
split the armed forces and the

forces of public order, and who  
completely lack the authority  
to lead them in an effective  
manner."  
Two communiqués issued on  
Tuesday by Lieutenant-General  
José Ignacio Alfaro Arregui,  
chairman of the Joint Chiefs of  
Staff, threw little light on the  
matter.  
One dealt with the conspiracy  
and the other with the arrest  
last week of Lieutenant-  
General Juan Atarés Peña,  
commander of the paramilitary  
Civil Guard police in the  
south-eastern coastal area.  
There was no implication that  
he had any part in the planned  
uprising.  
Like previous statements  
from the Government, the com-  
miqué on the plot avoided  
the use of the phrase "coup  
d'état and speaks of plans for  
a "surprise attack." It put the  
blame on a Civil Guard  
lieutenant-colonel, and said that  
the plan was to have been car-  
ried out last Friday.  
The only officers under  
arrest in connection with the  
plot, according to the Govern-  
ment, are Lieutenant-Colonel  
Antonio Tejero of the Civil  
Guard and Captain Ricardo  
Sáenz de Astrí of the  
Security Police.  
Last July 21, El Imparcial  
published on its front page an  
open letter from Colonel  
Tejero to the king calling for  
a tough law on terrorism.  
The newspaper published the  
letter again in August, after the  
colonel reportedly had been  
punished for writing for pub-  
lication without the approval of  
his superiors, and again in  
September.



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## OVERSEAS

Sarkis plea for unity  
as Christians talk  
of war on SyriansFrom Robert Fisk  
Beirut, Nov 22

The delicately balanced political machinery that has supposed to have ensured Lebanon's survival after last month's fighting between Lebanese Christian militias and Syrian troops is perilously near to breakdown.

After a week of serious differences between the Syrians and the Lebanese Government of President Elias Sarkis over implementing security plans agreed by Arab leaders at last month's Beirut summit conference, the Cabinet in Beirut cannot even reach agreement on the powers given to the commander of the new Lebanese Army.

As if this was not a dismal enough prologue to the thirty-fifth anniversary of Lebanon's independence, a bomb killed four civilians near a Syrian military bus 12 miles from Beirut last night. Two hours later, Mr Sarkis was telling his people in a nationally televised broadcast that their country was "disintegrating" before their eyes.

Today the military leader of the Christian militias in the capital, Mr Beshir Gemayel, made a rhetorical but none the less disturbing appeal for the "liberation" of Lebanon. His call, which was broadcast on the Phalangist "Voice of Free Lebanon" radio and preceded by a flurry of drums, bugle calls and martial music, was addressed to the 12,000 men under his command. Their task, he said, was to free Lebanon from Syrian "occupation".

Mr Gemayel's broadcast should not be taken too literally, at least for the present. The anniversary of

Lebanon's independence usually provides an opportunity for factional leaders here to identify their version of national freedom. But at a time when the Lebanese Cabinet is hopelessly divided over the future and the Beirut ceasefire is being violated nightly, the message is meant to convey the Christians' readiness for another round of civil war.

Mr Sarkis's broadcast last night was at least realistic. He emphasized that the Lebanese will have to solve their problems themselves and not look to other nations for help "because neither money nor material power nor external support in any form can save Lebanon if the Lebanese do not want Lebanon's salvation".

The problem, however, is that Mr Sarkis's own colleagues cannot find this unity among themselves. The Cabinet is divided over the future of the national Army, with Muslim ministers insisting that the powers of the commander—who under the constitution must be a Christian—be curtailed.

Attempts to persuade the Syrian Government to allow Lebanese Christian troops to take over more Syrian positions round the Christian enclave in east Beirut have been rejected sharply in Damascus. The private radio stations, which were to have been closed down under the terms of the Beirut ceasefire, are still broadcasting.

A statement tonight from the predominantly Syrian Arab Deterrent Force said that four Christians had been killed and five Syrian troops wounded in last night's explosion.

## Warning to profiteers

Jakarta, Nov 22—Admiral Sudomo, Indonesia's national security chief, said any merchants caught profiteering or hoarding after last week's devaluation of the rupiah would be given forced labour, such as cleaning drains.

## 100 die on crossing

Lagos, Nov 22—More than 100 people were believed to have died in a collision between a passenger train and a road petrol tanker at an ungated level crossing in Owerri in Nigeria's Benue state.

Press views  
destruction  
wreaked by  
UgandansFrom Our Correspondent  
Nairobi, Nov 22

Tanzania has allowed journalists to visit the border area west of Lake Victoria, for the first time since the invasion by Ugandan troops. President Amin announced a week ago that he had pulled back his forces, who had occupied 710 square miles of Tanzanian territory.

Tanzanian officials accompanied the journalists from Bukoba to the village of Kyaka, where the bridge across the Kagera river was blown up during the Ugandan occupation. The centre span of the bridge is down, but Tanzanians have erected a pontoon bridge across the river and are repairing the damaged bridge.

Tanzanian troops are installed along the north bank of the Kagera along the road north to Uganda, but the journalists were turned back some 15 miles from the border.

Heavy rain has turned the narrow dirt roads into a sea of mud and communications in the area are difficult. The river is in flood and is about 150ft wide at Kyaka. Kyaka itself is virtually a military camp with no civilians visible. Shops, houses and a church were damaged by gunfire and most have been looted.

The Kagera sugar factory, six miles north of Kyaka, is badly damaged, with its roofs down and machinery crushed. Other sugar factory buildings stand empty and ransacked. The government hospital in Bukoba is filled with wounded Tanzanian civilians, most of whom say they were shot cold blood by Ugandan troops who occupied the area north of the Kagera. A Red Cross representative said that 31,600



A Tanzanian soldier shouldering a bazooka not far from the Ugandan front-line.

people were being cared for in refugee camps near Bukoba after fleeing across the river from their former homes.

Ugandan and Tanzanian forces have clashed again on the border but both sides claim to have inflicted fatal casualties while suffering none themselves. The latest fighting appears to have taken place on or near the border. The Tanzanian news agency said that

two Ugandan tanks had been destroyed near Mbululi, the small town at the border with a number of Ugandans killed.

A Ugandan spokesman today said a Tanzanian raiding party had been detected by electronic devices, and two armoured personnel carriers were sent to repel it. According to the Ugandans, the Tanzanians suffered heavy casualties.

## Israelis think Egypt needs a prod

From Michael Knipe  
Jerusalem, Nov 22

The Israeli Government is satisfied that the crucial decision of whether a peace treaty with Egypt will be signed now rests with President Anwar Sadat of Egypt.

It is optimistic that with a little prodding from the United States the Egyptian leader will relent over his demands for a specific timetable for the introduction of self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza and that the treaty will be signed shortly. No great significance is being

attached in Jerusalem to the recall from Washington of the head of the Egyptian delegation to the peace negotiations. The view here is that this was an understandable act of diplomatic style.

Government spokesmen emphasized today that the Cabinet is resolute in its intention not to accept a ceasefire not to accept the idea of a timetable for the introduction of Palestinian autonomy on the ground that, as other parties are involved, it would be beyond

its power to meet such a deadline.

However, it is being pointed out that Israel is ready for negotiations on the self-rule issue to begin at any time.

Mr Moshe Dayan, the Foreign Minister, said Israel had agreed to begin immediate negotiations on the matter, but could not accept any "preconditions or dictates". Speaking to Foreign Ministry officials he said, if for any reason, the peace treaty was not signed the Government would consider taking unilateral steps to introduce autonomy.

Tanks out in  
Tehran  
bazaar clashFrom Tony Allaway  
Tehran, Nov 22

Fresh clashes between troops and demonstrators, a power cut, a renewed petrol panic brought Tehran near to chaos again today.

In what eye-witnesses described as "over-reaction" troops besieged the city's grand bazaar, blocked off all surrounding roads, and rushed six Chieftain tanks into the area after a demonstration by about 200 youths.

An officer tried at first to stop the protest by firing into the air with his pistol, the witness said, but when this failed detachments of troops charged five abreast through the bazaar's narrow alleyways, firing at will as they chased the youths. Sources said that at least four bystanders were wounded in the firing in the bazaar, which had been open for just three days after a fortnight's shutdown.

A power cut, believed to be deliberate sabotage by electricity workers, blacked out much of the city in the afternoon and shut off petrol pumps.

In Parliament today the Government of General Ashraf Pahlavi won a confidence vote, but the majority was higher than expected—131 votes to 27, with six abstentions. A censure motion against the previous Government of Mr Jafar Sharif-Emami produced 176 Government votes, 35 for the Opposition, and seven abstentions.

Pretoria front group  
is forced to disbandFrom Nicholas Ashford  
Johannesburg, Nov 22

The continuing revelations arising from the Department of Information scandal have caused another casualty. This time it is the Pretoria-based Foreign Affairs Association, a quasi-academic body set up three years ago in an attempt to influence important people overseas into adopting a more positive attitude towards South Africa.

Mr R. F. Botha, the Foreign Minister, announced last night that the Government had decided to disband what was ostensibly a private organization because of what he described as "circumstances which border on blackmail". The Association's staff had told him that newspapers were planning to report that the organization was supported by government funds.

This has subsequently been confirmed by Mr Cas de Villiers, the association's director, who said that the Government more about 75 per cent of the association's operating costs. One of the trustees, Mr J. P. Pickard, a prominent businessman, also admitted that the association had been funded by the now defunct Department of Information. Money had also been put up by a group of businessmen.

Mr de Villiers said today that he was aware that "all front organizations would be exposed in time... we cannot go on".

Visits to South Africa by members of prominent overseas personages would have to be cancelled because of the decision to disband the association he added.

Mr Kiri Katzin, assistant editor of the Johannesburg *Sunday Express*, appeared under subpoena before a Johannesburg magistrate today to answer questions relating to an article on the murder of I. Robert Smit, former South African representative at the International Monetary Fund. The hearing took place in camera.

Afterwards Mr Katzin said he did not believe he had given any information which would be used as a basis for a wrongful conviction. Katzin has played a leading role in exposing the Department of Information scandal.

Mr Richard Harris, the Irish actor, failed to appear in court today after a warrant had been issued for his arrest in connection with a claim against him by a South African film producer for 1.3m rands (£800,000).

The producer, Mr Andriessen, has alleged that Harris was frequently drunk, the set of the film *Goldengirls* and delayed production schedule by 44 days. He and Mr Harris were reported today to be negotiating a settlement between themselves.

Mr Botha 'to end support' i  
Salisbury delays poll againFrom Frederick Cleary  
Salisbury, Nov 22

Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, is reported to have warned the Rhodesian transitional Government that it can expect no more support from Pretoria if majority-rule elections and independence are further delayed.

The *National Observer*, a Salisbury newspaper, said that Mr Botha had told the Rhodesian Executive Council that he would have preferred adherence to the promised December 31 date for independence.

The South African government was concerned and "jittery" about the delay of elections until next April. The newspaper said.

It quoted the sources as saying that Mr Botha told the Executive Council in a recent meeting that delays kept attracting world attention to southern African problems.

According to the sources the Rhodesians were also told that South Africa was beginning to feel the burden of assisting Rhodesia economically, and did

not promise to continue indefinitely. Mr Botha was like to see a democratic bias given to the elections, and an internal settlement—a move unlikely to adopt a host attitude to South Africa emerge in Rhodesia "the poor the better".

The report says that when Mr Botha accepted the Executive Council's reasons for postponement it was emphasized that there was to be no further delay beyond April 30.

Meanwhile Bishop Al Muzorewa, a member of the executive council, has been attacked by councilors yesterday confirming that blacks be conscripted into security forces. The Bishop who did not attend said that three members of the executive council, Mr Muzorewa, Mr M. Nkomo, and Mr Chirau—had agreed to go ahead with the first phase of the conscription in January, but he refused to agree.

The Council of Chiefs rejected a request for a separate council for Matabeleland.

## Crisis in Ecevit party

From Our Correspondent  
Ankara, Nov 22

Discontent within the left-of-centre Republican People's Party of Mr Bulent Ecevit, the Prime Minister, came to a head today with the party parliamentary group refusing to debate crucial anti-anarchy bills and Professor Turan Guner, the former Foreign Minister, resign-

ing from the party's executive board.

One deputy, Mr H. Yildirim, said that the Bill's was "to set up a police state". The unrest within the party came mainly from dissatisfaction with the Prime Minister's Ecevit's Cabinet, which 11 independents, former members of the opposition Justice Party of Mr Suleyman Demirel,

## Text of Unesco stand on media

The declaration on the news media approved by member nations of Unesco at their conference in Paris yesterday contains the following articles:

**Article I**  
The strengthening of peace and international understanding, the promotion of human rights and the countering of racism, apartheid and incitement to war, demand a free flow and wider and better balanced dissemination of information. To this end, the mass media have a leading contribution to make. This contribution will be the more effective to the extent that the information reflects the different aspects of the subject dealt with.

**Article II**  
1. The exercise of freedom of opinion, expression and information, recognised as an integral part of human rights and fundamental freedoms, is a vital factor in the strengthening of peace and international understanding.

2. Access by the public to information should be guaranteed by the diversity of the sources and means of information available to it, thus enabling each individual to check the accuracy of facts and to appraise events objectively. To this end, journalists must have freedom to report and the fullest possible facilities of access to information. Similarly, it is important that the mass media be responsive to concerns of peoples and individuals, thus promoting the participation of the public in the elaboration of information.

3. With a view to the strengthening of peace and international understanding, to promoting human rights and to countering racism, apartheid and incitement to war, the mass media throughout the world, by reason of their role, contribute effectively to promoting human rights. In particular by giving expression to oppressed peoples who struggle against colonialism, neo-colonialism, foreign occupation and all forms of racial discrimination and oppression, and who are unable to make their voices heard within their own territories.

4. If the mass media are to be in a position to promote the principles of this Declaration in their activities, it is essential that journalists and other agents of the mass media, in their own country or abroad, be assured of protection guaranteeing them the best conditions for the exercise of their profession.

**Article III**  
The mass media have an important contribution to make to the strengthening of peace and international understanding and in countering racism, apartheid and incitement to war.

2. In countering aggressive war, racism, apartheid and other violations of human rights which are the cause of international prejudice and ignorance, the mass media, by disseminating information on the aims, aspirations, cultures and needs of all people, contribute to eliminate ignorance and misunderstanding between peoples, to make nations of a country sensitive to the needs and desires of others, to ensure the respect of the rights and dignity of all nations, all peoples and all individuals without distinction of race, sex, language, religion, nationality and to draw attention to the great evils which afflict humanity, such as poverty, malnutrition and diseases, thereby promoting the formulation by states of policies best able to promote the reduction of international tension and the peaceful and equitable settlement of international disputes.

**Article IV**  
The mass media have an essential part to play in the education of young people in a spirit of peace, justice, freedom, mutual respect and understanding. In order to promote human rights and equality of rights as between all human beings and all nations, and to ensure the progress of peace and justice, the mass media have an important role to play in making known the views and aspirations of the young generation.

**Article V**  
In order to respect freedom of opinion, expression and information and in order that information may reflect all points of view, it is essential that the points of view presented by those who consider that the information published or disseminated about them has seriously prejudiced their effort to strengthen peace and international understanding to promote human rights or to counter racism, apartheid and incitement to war, be given the opportunity to express their views and to cooperate both among themselves and with the mass media in developed countries.

**Article VI**  
For the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the flow of information, which will be conducive to the institution of a just and lasting peace and to the economic and political independence of the developing countries, it is necessary to correct the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries, and between those countries. To this end, it is essential that their mass media should have conditions and resources enabling them to gain strength and expand, and to cooperate both among themselves and with the mass media in developed countries.

**Article VII**  
By disseminating more widely all of the information concerning the objectives and principles universally accepted which are the basis of the resolutions adopted by the different organs of the United Nations, the mass media contribute effectively to the strengthening of peace and international understanding, to the promotion of human rights, and to the establishment of a

more just and equitable in national economic order.

**Article VIII**  
Professional organizations, people who participate in the professional training of journalists and other agents of the mass media and who assist them in performing their functions in a responsible manner should attach special importance to the training of journalists, drawing up and ensuring application of their codes of ethics.

**Article IX**  
In the spirit of this Declaration it is for the international community to contribute to the creation of the conditions for a free flow and wider and better balanced dissemination of information, and the conditions for protection, in the exercise of functions, of journalists and agents of the mass media. Un is well placed to make a valuable contribution in this respect.

1. With due respect for constitutional provisions designed to guarantee freedom of information and for the applicable national instruments and agreements it is indispensable to create conditions throughout the world for the organizations and persons professionally involved in the dissemination of information to achieve the objectives of this Declaration.

2. It is important that a flow of wider and better balanced dissemination of information be encouraged.

3. To this end, it is necessary that states should facilitate procurement by the mass media in the developing countries adequate conditions and resources enabling them to gain strength and expand, and that they should port cooperation by the latter among themselves and with mass media in developed countries.

4. Similarly, on a basis of equality of rights, mutual aid and respect for the diversity of cultures which go to make the common heritage of mankind, it is essential that bilateral relations of cooperation and information among all states and in particular between those which different economic and systems be encouraged.

**Article XI**  
For this Declaration to be effective it is necessary, with respect for the legislative and administrative provisions and other obligations of member states to guarantee the existence and development of the mass media in conformity with the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the corresponding principles proclaimed in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1966.

Leading article, p. 1

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RSEAS

# Stalemate in troop talks will be main Warsaw Pact topic

By David Binyon  
Nov 22

The stalemate at Vienna is likely to be the main subject of the agenda. The 15-nation conference has now lasted for six years, and little progress has been made. In June the Warsaw Pact submitted new proposals a little closer to the West position, offering to withdraw 105,000 ground troops from central Europe, but NATO has been pressing for further details and would like a much bigger withdrawal to provide an equitable balance between the two alliances.

The threat posed by China and its growing interest in buying Western arms will undoubtedly be raised during the Moscow summit. President Ceausescu of Romania, who invited Chairman Hua Guofeng on an official visit this summer, will certainly be asked for his views, but the Russians and their allies will be careful not to make any direct criticism of Romania nor any public mention of China.

The meeting in summer of NATO's political council in Washington will also be closely analysed. Though the adoption of a long-term arms control programme was strongly criticized, the pact will presumably feel the need to draw up a comparable long-term response.

It will also want to know how likely it is to have to face neutron weapons from the American side.

There has been some speculation that Vietnam might be invited to join the Warsaw Pact, having just signed a treaty of friendship with the Soviet Union. The country has already been admitted to Comecon, the eastern bloc's trading organization. This prospect seems unlikely, however.

Two other Comecon members, Cuba and Mongolia, have close links with the pact but are not members.

## Carrington puts his cards to Mr Gromyko

By David Binyon  
Nov 22

Carrington, leader of the British delegation, said the British side had welcomed progress in military détente but had told the Russians that Britain believed matters were out of balance on the human rights aspects of the Helsinki accords.

They did not see much prospect of closer cooperation with the Soviet Union in such places as Africa or the Middle East, but on the economic side had been struck by Soviet acknowledgement of the Russians' close implication in the world economy. This was used to increase multilateral cooperation.

## Published in orthodox Moscow journal turns literary event with political significance

### Light on wartime fight of Jews

By David Binyon  
Nov 22

A novel recounting of a Ukrainian Jew from the beginning of his life to the end of his life, the book is a literary event with political significance. It is published in the orthodox Moscow journal *Pravda*.

The novel, *Heavenly Sand*, by Anatoly Peskov, depicts the life of a Jewish boy, Yasha, who grows up in a small town in the Ukraine. The story is set during the Second World War, and the novel is a powerful indictment of the anti-Semitism of the time.

The novel is a literary event with political significance. It is published in the orthodox Moscow journal *Pravda*.

## Jaguar deal raises outcry in India

By David Binyon  
Nov 22

Mr Jagdish Ram, the Indian Defence Minister, put it on record before Parliament today that no private person was involved in any way in the decision to purchase the Anglo-French Jaguar aircraft to replace the country's Air Force.

But despite his intervention, business in the Lok Sabha (the Lower House of Parliament) was interrupted for 20 minutes as opposition MPs insisted on questioning the minister further. The Speaker, however, refused to allow any more supplementary questions.

The controversy about the purchase of the deep penetration strike aircraft, agreed early last month and worth more than £1,000m to Britain, is being exploited not only by the Opposition, but by the rival factions of the ruling Janata Party as well.

Only two days ago the top Janata Party leaders agreed to set up a special committee to go once more over the deal after Mr Charan Singh, the former Home Minister, had attacked Mr Ram over the Jaguar as a parliamentary party meeting. His aide, Mr Raj Narain, the former Minister of Health, even asserted that he had documentary proof that the deal was "not in the country's interests".

Mr Singh at that meeting seized on Mr Ram's angry remark in Bombay earlier this month branding as "traitors" all those who criticized the Jaguar purchase.

Whether this top level investigation can really settle the controversy is doubtful. The *Times of India*, in a leading article yesterday, pointed out that the special committee was an ad hoc body composed of members of the Cabinet's political committee, with the addition of Mr Singh and the Steel Minister. It was the Cabinet's political committee that had approved the Jaguar deal last month, basing its decision on reports by Indian Air Force experts.

Mr Ram insisted today that at all stages the deal had been conducted between the Indian Defence Ministry and the public-owned British Aerospace. He denied that the RAF, as his critics here maintain, was already phasing out the Jaguar.

The opposition attack today comes after a broadside in the present issue of *Surge*, the monthly magazine edited by Mrs Maneka Gandhi, the daughter-in-law of the former Prime Minister. A 10-page article accused Mr Ram of forcing the Jaguar on India, instead of the French Mirage or the Swedish Viggen, and of using the deal to enrich himself.



Crammed with refugees, a Vietnamese fishing boat sets off, watched by Malaysian villagers, towards a refugee camp at the mouth of the river Trengannu. It hit a sandbank and capsized, drowning up to 200 people.

## Challenge to Fukuda reelection

By David Binyon  
Nov 22

Mr Takeo Fukuda, the Japanese Prime Minister, may be ousted from office during a party election next week by a party stalwart, Mr Masayoshi Ohira, the party's secretary general.

Mr Fukuda is challenged by three party stalwarts: Mr Ohira, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the chairman of its executive council, and Mr Toshio Komoto, the Minister for International Trade and Industry.

For the first time in three decades the party rank and file began to cast postal votes this week to select two final candidates for the second phase of the election. The new leader will then be elected next Friday by party members of Parliament.

According to the latest opinion polls, Mr Fukuda is expected to collect a clear majority of the vote of the rank and file, but Mr Ohira could claim the support of the majority of the factions in the parliamentary party.

Meeting in a Tokyo hotel yesterday, the 76 MPs of the pro-LDP faction were given a clear message by Mr Ohira: "Vote for Ohira-san."

Mr Fukuda is also in trouble on another front. His predecessor and bitter rival, Mr Takeo Miki, who was forced to resign two years ago, may also instruct 44 of his own supporters within the parliamentary party to vote for Mr Ohira. Mr Ohira in his own right is the leader of a faction of 58 MPs.

Fukuda can count only on the firm support of the 77 members of his own faction and possibly another 47 votes.

The final outcome could then be decided on a narrow margin by 78 uncommitted Liberal Democratic MPs.

## Costa Rica cuts off relations with Nicaragua

By David Binyon  
Nov 22

San Jose, Nov 22.—Costa Rica last night broke off diplomatic relations with Nicaragua after troops of the two Central American states had clashed.

The Public Security Ministry here said that one Costa Rican civilian guard was killed, two soldiers wounded and some civilian guards captured in the clashes in a border area.

President Rodrigo Carazo of Costa Rica called for an urgent meeting of the Organization of American States to seek the immediate expulsion of Nicaragua.

Managua: International mediators have proposed a national referendum in Nicaragua to decide whether President Anastasio Somoza should remain in power.

## Victims of mass suicide flown to US

By David Binyon  
Nov 22

Georgetown, Nov 22.—A special task force of United States Army and Air Force units today began the gruesome job of ferrying home the bodies of 409 members of the People's Temple cult who committed mass suicide in their remote jungle colony.

Helicopters began flying bodies out of the camp today and Air Force C130 transport aircraft were standing by to carry the dead to Dover (Delaware) Air Force base.

Other aircraft searched the camp area for an estimated 600 Americans still missing from the commune.

The Guyanese Government had considered immediate burial of the dead, 134 of whom had been identified by today. Most of the identifications were made possible only because some of those who poisoned themselves with cyanide mixed with a soft drink had first taped their names to their bodies or attached name tags to their wrists.

Most of the dead, who had followed the Rev Jim Jones, their religious and temporal leader, to the agricultural colony in Guyana's rain forest, were from California.

According to officials, decomposition of the bodies has been so rapid that Jonestown is a foul-smelling charnel-house instead of the prosperous-looking farm village that it was.

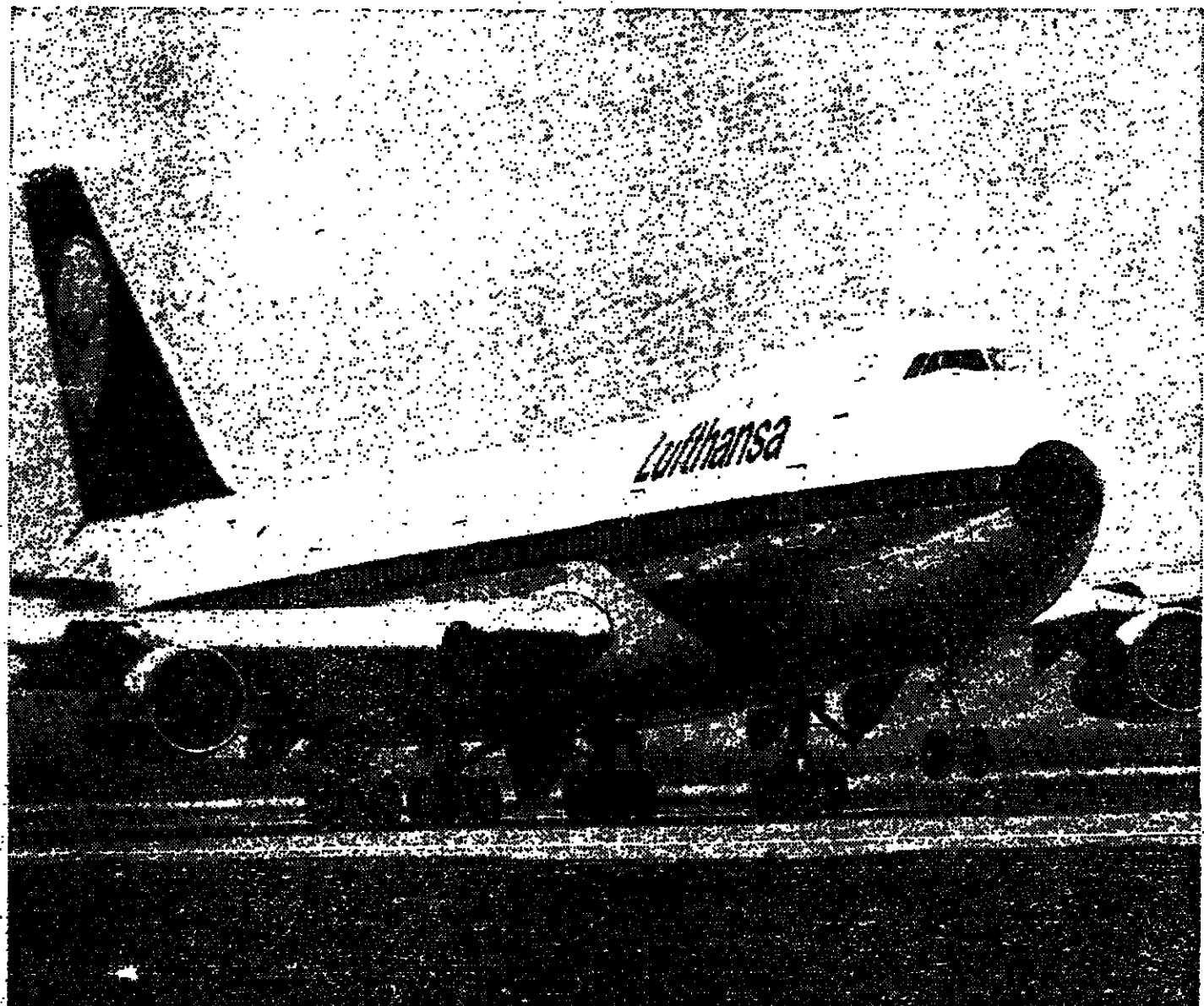
A dozen American Government officials from Washington, the FBI and others from American embassies near by have been ordered to Guyana to help Mr John Burke, the Ambassador and his staff to deal with the problem of handling inquiries from relatives.—Washington Star.

San Francisco: Jim Jones had an estimated \$10m (£5m) deposited in bank accounts in Europe, Latin America and California, a former member of the sect claimed today.

Details of the wealth of the sect's founder came from Mrs Deborah Layton Blakey, who was treasurer of the Jonestown colony up to last May. She has now left the sect.—Agence France-Presse.

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### British Limbless

## Passengers flee as orang-utan catches the bus

Bangkok, Nov 22.—When an orang-utan, lamenting the loss of his mate, boarded a crowded Bangkok bus, all the passengers decided it was time to get off.

The shrieking exodus from the bus must have left the 20-year-old orang-utan even lonelier because he immediately clambered off the bus to assuage his hurt feelings with a bunch of bananas stolen from a roadside vendor.

But as he looked for a friend to share his bananas, his search for companionship was coming quickly to an end, for he on his way to keepers from Dusit zoo where his morning stroll had begun some hours before.

Apparently frustrated by the opportunities to meet female orang-utans at used stones thrown to smash his way all.—UPI.



PARLIAMENT, November 22, 1978

## Only one card left to play on Rhodesia: careful preparation needed for all-party conference

House of Commons

There was only one card to play on Rhodesia—a conference which was successful, Dr David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during a question time.

When asked if he had any plans to visit Rhodesia, Dr Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, Lab) said: "Not at present but I am in touch with the United States administration on how we can best achieve a successful all-party conference."

Mr Nicholas Winterbottom (Macclesfield, C)—Every day that passes black and white Rhodesians are losing their lives because of terrorist activities.

Will the Foreign Secretary go to Salisbury at an early date to hold a round table conference with all the parties involved and establish in Salisbury a substantial mission to assist the interim government to set an electoral register prepared and arrange for elections, as this is vital to the future stability and peace of the country?

Dr Owen—What is important is to achieve not only an all-party conference which all of the parties attend but one that has a chance of success.

This going to be difficult to achieve in the present atmosphere. But I have not given up hope that it will be possible to achieve it. It will need careful preparation.

Mr John Farr (Harrow, C)—Now that the Rhodesian Government has been postponed to April 2, will the Foreign Secretary seize the opportunity made available by the time to set the Rhodesian Government properly to prepare an electoral register so that a fair test of public opinion may be made on April 20 with the Government's backing?

Dr Owen—If they wish to prepare an electoral register they have the means to do so. The Rhodesian Government has the level of fighting and with martial law covering 70 per cent of the country, it is that it is extremely difficult to hold an election which is free and fair and which will be an acceptable test of public opinion of the people of Rhodesia.

Mr Phillip Whitehead (Derby, North, Lab)—This wonderful opportunity which Opposition MPs are putting forward to put an end to the Rhodesian Government is an opportunity which is being squandered. That makes Mr Smith's position as an all-party conference further discredited.

Our own position as honest broker in all this is being undermined by the length of time before we set up an independent inquiry into the sanctions busting.

Dr Owen—I agree it is important that we demonstrate our commitment to sanctions and our readiness to ensure that if there have been any acts of breach of the sanctions, we should be brought to book.

On the central issue of how we can achieve a conference in the present climate, it is going to require patient preparation and readiness of all sides to compromise, which at the moment they

are not showing a willingness to do.

Mr Christopher Brocklebank-Pender (North-West Norfolk, C)—In view of the collapse of the Anglo-American proposals, will further consideration be given to the constructive suggestion made by Mr Francis Pym, Chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, on November 11 calling for a permanent mission in Rhodesia, further negotiations based on the internal settlement, a contact group and a conference to be chaired by the British Prime Minister?

Dr Owen—The Anglo-American proposals still offer the best framework for achieving a settlement. They are not perfect and they may need to be modified and changed, but they still offer the best chance of bringing all the parties together.

What he advocates in basing it on the internal settlement will not bring all the parties to the conference table but alone to a measure of agreement. As to how we can keep the momentum on an internal settlement, it is the responsibility of the parties themselves, considering all the factors raised in the debate.

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North, Lab)—This influence in Rhodesia will be greatly enhanced if he could have a full inquiry into the Bingham report on sanctions busting.

Will he resist the temptation for a cosy little committee of privy counsellors and judges to make a decision on the Rhodesian Government in the majority? (Labour cheers)

Dr Owen—I promised there would be no cover-up and there will be no cover-up. We have a full inquiry into the Bingham report on sanctions busting.

Mr Charles Morrison (Devizes, C)—His approach gives the impression that he thinks he has unlimited time in which to do so. His current lethargic approach is being interpreted by an increasing number of people as a total lack of desire to obtain any settlement.

Dr Owen—I do not think we have unlimited time. If one wishes to see an example of playing for long, it is the position of the Rhodesian Government. At the time of the internal settlement, the elections were promised for December.

Within a few days, we were sharing private reports of members of the regime touring around talking to civil servants and other bodies but not to the public.

Dr Owen—I agree it is important that we demonstrate our commitment to sanctions and our readiness to ensure that if there have been any acts of breach of the sanctions, we should be brought to book.

On the central issue of how we can achieve a conference in the present climate, it is going to require patient preparation and readiness of all sides to compromise, which at the moment they

## Door not closed to an invitation

Dr David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during a question time on Rhodesia that he was not closing the door against the possibility that it might be invited to invite the four leaders of the transitional government to London.

But the time was not right. If there appeared to be any possibility of a short-term settlement, it would be in the interests of the parties in the interests of achieving a negotiated settlement (the said).

It was the possibility of having an all-party conference and is certainly not something that should be encouraged in any part of the House.

Mr Patrick Wall (Hampshire, C)—The Rhodesian leaders' visit to America was a great success. Why will he not ask Mr Smith to visit this country? It is time that they will appear over the heads of the Government to the British people?

Will he invite his friends in the Patriotic Front to come to a conference as the transitional government have agreed to come without qualifications?

Dr Owen—I have been to Salisbury and met Mr Smith on three occasions. I am not saying we would not speak to Mr Smith and those associated with the internal regime in a search for a negotiated settlement.

I do not believe it would at the moment contribute towards a negotiated settlement to allow Mr Smith to visit this country. It is a matter of timing and a matter of the internal settlement.

Mr Francis Pym, Chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth Affairs—A meeting with Mr Smith in London would be helpful in achieving the fifth principle. The more talk there is between the British Government and the Patriotic Front, the more hope there is for a settlement.

Dr Owen—I quite agree that the more talk there is between the British Government and the Patriotic Front, the more hope there is for a settlement.

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they did so they would be liable to prosecution and the legal position and I cannot change it by executive decision. I have indicated how it could be done.

Mr David Stoddart (Swindon, Lab)—From Mr Smith's visit to the United States being a success, it put back the cause of peace by a long way. His action in the United States was contradicted by the speedy action he took upon Zambia.

Dr Owen—It was a deeply regrettable decision to make the raids in Zambia. (Conservative interruptions) It has delayed the possibility of having an all-party conference and is certainly not something that should be encouraged in any part of the House.

Mr Patrick Wall (Hampshire, C)—The Rhodesian leaders' visit to America was a great success. Why will he not ask Mr Smith to visit this country? It is time that they will appear over the heads of the Government to the British people?

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## Unofficial rail dispute causing 'inexcusable inconvenience to public'

Today's unofficial railway dispute in London and the south-east was described by the Opposition as "inexcusable inconvenience to public".

The strike arose from dissatisfaction with a recent report of the Railway Staff National Tribunal rejecting Aslef's claim for payments for footplate staff in parallel with a bonus payment for the rail guards. The industrial action was unofficial and not supported by the executive committee of the union.

A meeting between the British Railways Board and the union (Aslef) is at this moment in progress which will discuss the bonus payment. The union is adamant that it will not accept a bonus payment unless it is accompanied by a reduction in the rate of pay for the rail guards.

Mr Norman Fowler, Opposition spokesman on Transport (Sutton, Devon, Lab)—I am strongly opposed to the strike. It is a disgrace that the railway is being run by a handful of people who are not even members of the union.

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North, Lab)—The railway is a lifeline for the country. It is a disgrace that it is being run by a handful of people who are not even members of the union.

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## Scottish Secretary explains why some people on register will not get vote in devolution referendum

The Government believed the 40 per cent hurdle would be easily overcome, Mr Bruce Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, said when moving approval of the Scotland Act, 1978 (Referendum) Order 1978.

The order appoints March 1, 1979, as the day on which the devolution referendum would be held and to apply the statutory machinery through which the referendum was to be conducted. It followed substantially the precedent of the order made for Scotland in 1979.

The referendum would be conducted on the basis of region and island areas. The 1979 electoral register would be used as the basis for the referendum. The decision to hold the referendum on Thursday, March 1, therefore meant that it would be conducted on the basis of the 1979 electoral register which was as up to date as possible.

Those who would be eligible to vote would be all those who were registered in the 1979 electoral register in a parliamentary election in Scotland and those who were registered in a parliamentary election in Scotland and those who were registered in a parliamentary election in Scotland.

The general principle of the order was to apply the normal electoral law for parliamentary elections, modified as necessary. The last date for the receipt of postal votes was January 1, 1979, which was again in accordance with normal practice at parliamentary elections. All those who were registered in the 1979 electoral register would be eligible to vote in the referendum.

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50,000. He expected the figure for next year's register to be of the same order.

A responsible guide to the deduction that might be made from the results was that if the referendum had been held this year on March 1 the deduction would have been of the order of 25,000.

People who were detained in penal institutions were (legally) incapable of voting and this meant there should be a deduction of convicted prisoners whose names were on the registers. The error suggested that any deduction would be small.

It was a difficult category with multiple registration—those whose names appeared on more than one register. Such people would be able to record only one vote.

The largest categories of the likely to be registered for more than one address were students living away from home in term time and those living in residential accommodation at hospitals, nursing homes and young medical staff.

The current figure for the number of students receiving an award through the Scottish Education Department and living outside the parental home was about 25,000. This figure was likely to be a good estimate of the number of students with multiple registration.

The upper limit for those living in hospital accommodation who names might appear on two registers was estimated to be about 5,000.

criticism during or after a campaign about the machinery which public opinion was test and the votes counted.

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A SPECIAL REPORT

## Power transferred in tranquillity

by Weston

Assembly, the Chief Justice and the head of the civil service, not by the Vice-President. Their plan failed when Mr Njonjo announced that to "imagine" the death of the President was a criminal offence.

One of the key figures in the usually disguised campaign to reduce Mr Moi's presidential chances was Dr Njoroge Mungai, a nephew of the late President and a former Foreign Minister. He might have been a challenger to Mr Moi this year if he had not lost his parliamentary seat at the last election, thus becoming ineligible to run for president.

It is still too early to predict the political prospects of the large Kenyan family. Since the period of mourning, it has vanished from public interest. Nevertheless it has been at the heart of the Kenyan establishment for so long that its prospects cannot be written off.

Kenyan politics revolve around personalities rather than policy or ideology. Kanu has been dormant for many years, its last elections having been held in 1966, and one of the key issues now is whether it can be revived. Despite declarations by President Moi that government will now be more open, many political observers fear that closed caucus government will continue as in the past, in case a too independent party should get out of hand.

The elections for party offices that took place at the end of last month led to no great surprises. It was almost a foregone conclusion that Mr Kibaki, having been named Vice-President of the republic by Mr Moi, would be elected vice-president of Kanu, although he was challenged for the party post by Mr Jeremiah Nyagah, the Minister of Agriculture, who was anxious at least to make it a democratic contest.

The most controversial figure in the party elections was the late Luo leader, Mr Oginga Odinga, Vice-President of Kenya at independence in 1963. He resigned his office and formed the Kenya People's Union in 1966. The party was later banned and he has been twice imprisoned.

He never gives up and has been seeking without success a return to political office for the past seven years. Although his lifestyle is that of a capitalist, he appears to be feared partly for the



The new leadership: President Daniel arap Moi, Vice-President Mwai Kibaki and Mr Charles Njonjo, the Attorney-General.

leftist tendencies of earlier years, but mainly for the magical appeal he exerts within his own tribe despite his avowed loyalty to President Kenyatta and subsequently President Moi.

His candidature has consistently been ruled out of order; rules have been changed to deprive him of office and other pressures have been exerted on him. When he announced his bid to run for party chairman last month, Mr Kibaki suggested he should be given the chance once and for all to see whether he had a following. Surprisingly, this attempt too was suppressed.

President Moi later announced the reason was to avoid a split in the Luo leadership. In a country rights record than most Third World countries, the treatment accorded to Mr Odinga can only reflect discredit on the Government.

Although political alignments now cut much more across tribal allegiances—a trend which helped Mr Moi, who is from the small Kalenjin tribe, to achieve the highest office—care is still taken, at least in theory, to

distribute political power on a tribal and regional basis. It was mainly for this reason that Mr Kibaki's bid for the party's vice-presidency met substantial opposition. The rather weak case against him was that because, like Kenyatta, he is a Kikuyu, it would be unfair not to give one of the other tribes the chance to succeed to the presidency.

Mr Kibaki must now be regarded as the second most powerful man in the Government, not only as vice-president of the party and the republic but also because he has retained his finance portfolio. The role of Mr Njonjo, however, must not be underestimated. As head of the legal system, he has a seat in Parliament but is not subject to election, and it is he who instigates or approves prosecutions.

In the later years of the last regime, many people complained of corruption in high places, and earlier this year a furious row developed between the civil service union and MPs, each accusing the other of abusing the privileges of their positions and neglecting their duties. There has also been a serious

breakdown in law and order. Armed robbery and smuggling are rife, and hoarding on a vast scale has caused shortages of salt, maize, sugar, rice, tea, soap and even medicines.

President Moi's policy statements so far have played to the gallery, raising the hopes of the vast majority who are discontented with the wide and growing disparity between the wealth and power of the elite at the top and the widespread poverty and unemployment at the bottom.

He repeatedly attacks corruption, nepotism, inefficiency and indiscipline, and has issued a warning that smugglers and hoarders will be dealt with ruthlessly.

Mr Njonjo has felt strong enough to attack corruption in the police. He recently announced that a plot has been uncovered, involving a police unit at Nakuru, to assassinate the President, the Vice-President and himself. The Assistant Commissioner of Police in the Rift Valley has filed the country union and MPs, each accusing the other of abusing the privileges of their positions and neglecting their duties. There has also been a serious

breakdown in law and order. Armed robbery and smuggling are rife, and hoarding on a vast scale has caused shortages of salt, maize, sugar, rice, tea, soap and even medicines.

been his ban on further allocations of land to stop wealthy people accumulating any more. More than 90 per cent of the population lives by farming, although only 17 per cent of the country can be cultivated. The Kikuyu, the largest tribe, have an almost obsessional attachment to land ownership and some own huge farming areas. The problem is greatly aggravated by the exceptionally high population growth, and an effective birth control campaign is needed urgently.

The changes that have been taking place in Kenya in recent weeks are unprecedented. President Moi and his Government have only a year to run before the end of their mandate, and now that the supreme authority of Kenyatta's day is over, politicians have become more vulnerable to criticism than at any time since independence.

If Mr Moi does not match up to the high expectations he has been creating, to what extent will the system prevent him from being unseated? Could his role be reduced to a ceremonial one and his powers transferred

to an executive prime minister? A constitutional change of this kind was being widely predicted by political observers and even high government sources just before Kenyatta died. Possibly, however, they did not expect the popular acclaim now being accorded to Mr Moi and his own political flair, which has been compared unfavourably with the intellectual brilliance of Mr Kibaki and Mr Njonjo.

An unknown quantity is the strength of the potential opposition within Kanu, which, some say, could emerge from an alliance of disparate makontents like Mr Odinga and Dr Mungai. The Moi-Kibaki-Njonjo triumvirate is strong, able and conservative. It stands for anti-communist capitalist policies that are likely to attract continuing support and investment from the Western world and will be a formidable challenge to any budding opposition, whatever its composition. The old habit of regarding any opposition to the President of Kenya as tantamount to treason despite the democratic processes could in the end prove crucial.

## President launches crusade

by Charles Harrison

Mr Daniel arap Moi, Kenya's new President, had been Vice-President from January 1967, until the death of President Jomo Kenyatta on August 22 this year. He brings to his new office a wealth of experience, not only from his service as Vice-President, but also from the fact that he has served continuously in Parliament (and, in its pre-independence predecessor, the Legislative Council) from 1955, when he was first chosen by Kenya's Electoral College to represent the Rift Valley.

Mr Moi is a member of the Tugen sub-tribe of the Kalenjin people of western Kenya—one of Kenya's smaller tribal groups. Born in September, 1924, his father died when he was only two, and he had the traditional task of herding his family's livestock until going to school at a mission station at the age of 10. During the school holidays he continued to help his family with the cattle, sheep and goats.

Later, Mr Moi trained as a teacher, being one of the first members of his tribe to qualify. He then served in a succession of teaching posts until he entered the Legislative Council (as one of its five African members) in 1955.

He was Minister for Education and Minister for Local Government before Kenya became independent in 1963. But as a member of the Kenya African Democratic Union (Kadu), he ceased to be a minister when the rival Kenya African National Union (KANU) won the pre-independence elections.

Soon afterwards, however, Kadu joined Kanu in a policy of national unity, and in December, 1964, Mr Moi led a Rift Valley Province delegation to express its support for President Kenyatta and his Kanu Government.

In January, 1967, Mr Moi was chosen by President Kenyatta as his Vice-President, and in this office he travelled widely throughout Kenya and outside—frequently representing Kenya at international meetings such as the Organization of African Unity summit conference.

On the death of President Kenyatta, Mr Moi, as Vice-President, automatically assumed the Presidency for a 90-day period during which presidential elections were required to be held. In the event, the elections were a formality, as Mr Moi was the only candidate, and the automatic choice of the ruling party once he had been formally chosen as the new President of Kanu.

Since becoming President, Mr Moi has established a crusading image, making strong attacks on corruption, land-grabbing and indiscipline. The Ministry of Information's official profile says: "Mr Moi is a disciplinarian and believes that little progress can be achieved where indiscipline abounds. Officers in public institutions, parliamentarians and party officials must thus maintain a high degree of integrity and discipline if these officers are to be of any meaningful service to the people."

As a member of a small tribal group, it is no surprise that he has made a point of condemning tribalism. It is no easy task to succeed the late Jomo Kenyatta, one of the best-known and most outstanding figures in modern African history. But Mr Moi has taken energetically to his new responsibilities and duties.

Leading political journal, *The Weekly Review*, in Kenya has pointed out that there is a danger in creating too much expectation among the public about the promised anti-corruption measures. Corruption exists in Kenya, though on a much smaller scale than in some African countries, but overcoming it in all its forms is not going to be easy.

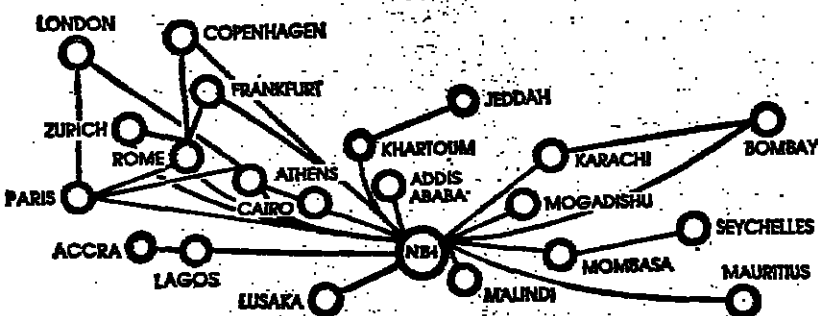
It is therefore all the more noteworthy that President Moi should choose to tackle this subject so vigorously in his early days in office. After all, if corruption is as widespread as he appears to suggest, considerable opposition can be expected to any anti-corruption campaign.

Nevertheless, having undertaken to launch such a campaign, Mr Moi cannot be seen to fail in it.

Mr Moi's energy, and his courage in tackling potentially thorny issues, however, have greatly heartened Kenyans. He has already created the image of a man deeply concerned for the good of the ordinary people.

Another vital matter is his promise to revitalize the ruling party, Kadu. Significantly, he set the date for the recent Kanu national elections within minutes of being installed as President. And he has already indicated that the revitalization will not stop there—giving the impression that some deep changes, with the aim of making Kanu a really effective force in Kenya can soon be expected.

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## Political differences complicate travel across borders

by Charles Harrison

Kenya's communications have undergone big changes in recent years, with a move away from regional schemes, such as those operated under the former East African Community. Today's Kenya Airways, Kenya Airways, Kenya Posts and Telecommunications, Kenya External Telecommunications and the Kenya Ports Corporation have replaced organizations which were formed to serve the whole of the East African Region.

Road communication in Kenya was never a responsibility of the Community, so the transition has been less obvious. But traffic patterns have changed—the road linking Kenya with Tanzania, for instance, has been affected by Tanzania's closure of the border early in 1977.

The main road to Uganda

remains open, and forms part of the Trans-African Highway. But the dreams of a free flow of road traffic across the African continent have not materialized, and political problems frequently make it difficult to travel across African frontiers.

A great deal of traffic still moves along the Kenya-Uganda highway, much of it heading for Rwanda, Burundi, Zaire and Sudan. But there is no longer a common market in East Africa, so there are formidable customs barriers to be surmounted at the borders.

Because of the problems involved in moving traffic through Uganda, a direct road to be built to link Kenya with Sudan. It will take several years to complete, but the considerable volume of traffic now moving from Kenya to southern Sudan will be eased greatly when it is open.

Hostility between Kenya and Somalia continues to limit trade between these countries, but Kenya has hopes for a growing trade with Ethiopia. A new road has been built linking Nairobi and Addis Ababa, with the Ethiopian section and much of the Kenyan section tarred.

There is scope for a considerable trade with Ethiopia over this route, but it has been almost unused because of the state of war in the Ogaden and the surrounding areas of Ethiopia. Kenya, however, has assured Ethiopia that all facilities will be made available for the movement of both exports and imports through Kenya's port of Mombasa if the Ethiopians wish to make use of this route.

A dispute over East African Airways, which was owned jointly by Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, was one of the main issues behind Tanzania's decision to close the Kenya border early in 1977. The border

closure was aimed specifically at hitting Kenya's export trade, and at stopping foreign tourists from using Nairobi as a stepping-off point for visits to the tourist areas of northern Tanzania.

With the border closed, Kenya can no longer send goods by road to Tanzania, Zambia and Malawi, and cannot receive the Zambian exports which formerly moved through Mombasa. Kenya therefore has had to look for new trade outlets, although some goods have continued to move south, either by air or by sea from Mombasa.

Kenyan tour operators have worked hard to offer alternatives to visitors, and the result has been a much wider spread of tourism in Kenya itself, since few visitors are prepared to fly direct into Tanzania to spend their entire holiday period there.

Railway communications were operated under the East African Community until it collapsed in July last year. But with the Tanzanian border closed, there were no trains running between Kenya and Tanzania.

Trains still run between Kenya and Uganda, but the fleet of steamers which formerly served the ports of the three countries on Lake Victoria have been out of action for the past three years. Only recently have several of the Lake Victoria steamers been moved from the Kenyan port of Kisumu to the Tanzanian port of Mwanza, from where the Tanzanian authorities plan to revive services to the other lake ports.

The transfer of the steamers was one of the demands made by Tanzania as a precondition for the reopening of the Kenyan border. But this by itself did not satisfy the Tanzanian authorities, and the border remains closed until

clear agreement is reached on future trade relations, air traffic rights and other issues.

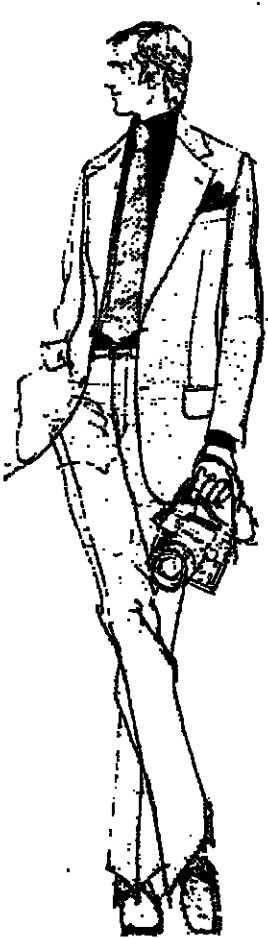
The railway link with Uganda is important for both countries. It carries Ugandan exports and imports, and the revenue from this traffic helps to balance Kenya's railway budget. But there are problems, and the journey between Kenya and Uganda is not the smooth affair that it once was. Fares and freight charges, for instance, must be paid partly in Ugandan currency and partly in Kenyan, and there are lengthy delays at the border station of Malaba.

Air communications, too, have undergone great changes. Tanzania refuses to allow Kenyan aircraft to fly over Tanzania, and Kenya refuses to allow international airlines to serve both countries direct flights. Charter flights are allowed to move between Kenya and Tanzania, but otherwise passengers travel to a third country, such as Ethiopia or Seychelles, then back again. Kenya Airways flights to and from Zambia and Malawi must fly over Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire because they are not allowed to fly over Tanzania.

Posts and telecommunications services were regionalized before the Community collapsed, but Kenya now operates a separate service, as do Uganda and Tanzania. Mails are exchanged among the three countries.

The satellite station at Longonot, near Nairobi, was built for all three countries, and provided them with efficient international communications services. But Uganda has already installed its own satellite station, and Tanzania is doing so. This will leave the Longonot station to serve Kenya only.

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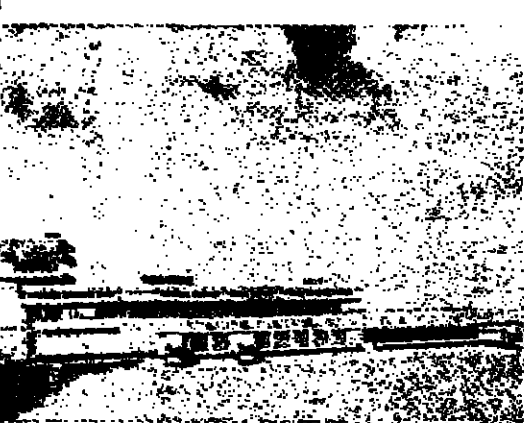
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## End of coffee boom emphasizes need to guard foreign exchange

Kenya's economy is going through a difficult readjustment after the boom year of 1977 when rising coffee prices combined with a record crop to produce a welcome cash flow.

With prices down to a much lower level for a crop sharply reduced in volume, 1978 has produced a growing realization that Kenya needs to safeguard its foreign exchange reserves, and must do even more to expand production in both agriculture and mining.

Kenya has enjoyed, however, a high level of capital investment recently, and this is producing a steady increase in real wealth, despite having to cope with one of the world's highest birthrates which means that more has to be spent on social services.

Economic growth this year will be less than the healthy figure of 7.3 per cent achieved in 1977, but it should, nevertheless, be between 5.5 and 6.5 per cent, which is comfortably above the 3.5 per cent population increase.

Agricultural output must inevitably fluctuate, mainly because of changing rainfall patterns, but for the first time for many years Kenya is seriously worried by the

threat of a locust invasion. If the locusts which have been breeding heavily in the Horn of Africa do descend on Kenya, they could have a disastrous effect on production. The authorities have every reason to be worried about this prospect.

All underlines the need for Kenya to develop its manufacturing and processing industries further. Manufacturing output went up by 15 per cent last year, and should show another good increase this year.

But Kenya finds it difficult to export many of its goods—partly because of the hostility of its two largest traditional markets, Uganda and Tanzania. Resentment at Kenya's dominant economic position in the East African region has been there for many years—it existed long before the East African Community agreement was signed in 1967.

But it was from the Community that the first moves were made to hinder Kenya's economic growth as a means of encouraging industrial development in Uganda and Tanzania. The free trade area within the Community was modified to permit the imposition of

discriminatory taxes on Kenyan goods sold to Uganda and Tanzania; the industrial licensing structure was designed to hold back new development in Kenya in favour of the other countries; and the East African Development Bank was required to limit its investment in Kenya.

The Community collapsed last year after Tanzania had closed its border with Kenya with the sole aim of blocking Kenya's trade in goods. The closure of the border has meant that for the past two years Kenya has been unable to move its exports by overland routes to Zambia and Malawi, as well as to Tanzania.

Exports to Tanzania fell from £K33m to £K9,800,000, those to Zambia fell from £K9m to £K5,900,000. But Kenyan exports to Uganda rose sharply from £K33,100,000 to £K52m—a figure exceeded only by Kenya's exports to Britain and West Germany, largely reflecting high coffee prices.

A sizable volume of exports has continued to move into Tanzania by sea, and the Government has helped to meet the cost of maintaining the refugees. The Kenyan economy has

shown itself strong enough to cope with a wide range of problems and even with the collapse of the East African Community. The main targets for exports are now the Middle East, Europe and North America—which are also the most important catchment areas for Kenya's tourism, a key sector in the economy and one which provides a useful balance for the other sectors.

Tourism has justified heavy investment in past years, although political uncertainties, the weakness of the dollar and other factors beyond Kenya's control have meant that the growth of tourism has been less than was hoped for, yet still substantial.

Overall, however, the Kenyan economy has had two good years of growth, thanks mainly to the combination of high coffee prices and good crops. But this produced a 15 per cent inflation rate which has now attracted corrective measures in the form of credit restrictions.

The money supply in Kenya last year increased by 46.8 per cent and a return to more normal levels has not been painless. However, the real effects of

these transformations will appear in 1979, which will reflect less of the carry-over from the boom years of 1976 and 1977.

But, despite an inevitably reduced money supply, the basis of the Kenyan economy is sounder than ever. New electric power generation, new roads, new port facilities, new industries and the replacement of many existing industries have built up considerably in the past few years and are helping to produce substantially more.

Heavy investment has also taken place in agriculture—particularly in sugar production, where increased output is providing unexpected employment opportunities while saving millions of pounds in foreign exchange.

All this puts Kenya in a remarkably good position to handle what have been described as the hard economic times ahead. The economic base is strong, by any standards, and remarkably so when compared with other African countries. Yet the task of guiding and directing the economy to ensure continuing growth in a period of increasing difficulty will be a tricky one.

C. H.

## Agriculture builds on sound colonial foundations

by Alan Rake

Few countries are more dependent on their agriculture than Kenya. This is true even in comparative African terms where the vast majority of countries are primarily dependent on agricultural wealth. Ninety per cent of Kenya's population lives in rural areas and earns its livelihood predominantly from agriculture. It provides 80 per cent of national exports and 35 per cent of the gross domestic product.

Many other African countries are as heavily dependent on the agricultural sector, but scarcely any (except perhaps the Ivory Coast in West Africa) have developed agriculture to such an advanced level with ramifications for every other sector of the economy.

Kenya Africans' secret of success is that they have largely inherited and taken over the efficient system of marketing, cooperatives and price control boards set up by the white farmers before independence and have adapted them to African conditions. The Central Government has always accorded agriculture its due place in the economy and has allowed the system to work largely on the liberal capitalist lines that have ensured economic success.

As production has grown, Kenya has been able to establish the most advanced agro-industrial sector of any African country, leading its nearest rivals in a whole range of activities, including food processing and manufacturing, milling, meat processing, the manufacture of fertilizer, and even paper making.

Kenya has also developed agricultural exports of fresh fruit, vegetables and flowers to Europe. This is a growing sector, demanding rapid and effective organization, but offering rich rewards where Kenya has a long lead over all its African rivals.

The heavy dependence of the Kenya economy on agriculture has its advantages and disadvantages. In recent years, when the coffee and tea prices were at record levels, it allowed the country to enjoy unprecedented expansion. Coffee is Kenya's most important single export accounting for the boom year of 1977 for 53 per cent of national exports. That was the year of excellent harvests added to world record price levels in the coffee earnings doubled.

Tea, Kenya's second most important cash crop did even better, with exports tripled. Sugar, milk and maize also did well though in the current season, tea prices have also fallen and production was poor. The on world markets, but the



Masai herdsman with the source of his tribal wealth. Ninety per cent of Kenya's population lives off agriculture.

agricultural exports of fresh fruit, vegetables and flowers to Europe. This is a growing sector, demanding rapid and effective organization, but offering rich rewards where Kenya has a long lead over all its African rivals.

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countries' meat industry was also fraught with supply difficulties caused largely by low producer prices.

Overall the agricultural sector's contribution to the gross domestic product rose in real terms by 7.5 per cent and money incomes in the sector rose by 72 per cent. This healthy performance brought Kenya its first current account surplus for 13 years, export revenues rose by 45 per cent and the trade deficit was more than halved. Foreign reserves nearly doubled to £K209m at the end of 1977.

But this situation was rapidly reversed in 1978. Coffee prices began to decline in March, 1977, affecting the Kenya crop which started on October 1, 1977. At the same time the weather was not so favourable and a reduced crop is expected when figures are in for the current season. Tea prices have also fallen and production was poor. The on world markets, but the

crop has been good and Kenya has plans to expand the planted area by 25,000 acres to enable the country to produce 283 million more kilos by 1990.

Kenya is on the brink of self-sufficiency in sugar. The Kenya Sugar Authority hopes to produce 220,000 tons of sugar this year compared with 180,000 in 1977. Last year the crop showed a record expansion of 16 per cent, though this was not enough to meet consumption which is running at 250,000 tons a year. Many schemes under way should close the gap.

These include the Mumias extension scheme by the Commonwealth Development Corporation and Booker McConnell, which will increase output from 70,000 tons to 180,000 tons by 1981. The Mehta group is investing £K25m in another 60,000-ton complex at Bungoma, while the latest project is a development by the sugar authority, which

hopes to produce 50,000 tons at Nyanza with the support of the World Bank and African Development Bank.

There are a number of problem areas concerning Kenya crops. Kenya produces three quarters of the world's pyrethrum, which makes a natural non-toxic insecticide, but production has been declining since the crop reached a peak in 1973-74. The 1977-78 crop is expected to be about 10,000 tons, far short of the country's 15,000-ton world quota. The Kenya Pyrethrum Board has recently announced a "grow more pyrethrum" campaign which is aimed at increasing the crop by 40 per cent.

Even more serious because it affects Kenya's textile industry, is the shortage of cotton. Kenya's textile factories previously depended on imports from neighbouring Uganda at Tanzania, but political difficulties and the Tanzania border closure have drastically reduced these sources of supply.

Kenya's farmers produce only 32,000 bales a year which is only a third of the national requirements, at the demand by 1980 will be 150,000 bales. Cotton farmers in the Machakos district are participating in drive to supply a new gin which is being put in the area. Cotton will be one of the major crops to be produced as the result of the Bura scheme on the Tana river.

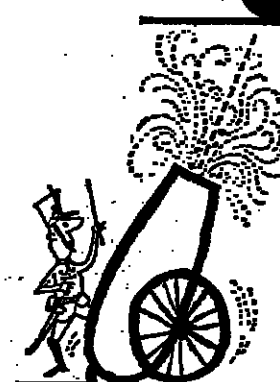
The much heralded Tana river scheme is at last under way after decades of planning and discussion. The whole scheme which is expected to cost more than £100m aims to settle 65,000 people growing cotton and food crops on land irrigated by a dam at Masinga. The author is managing editor, New African Development.

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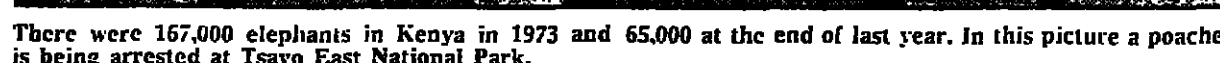
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## Conservationists win important victories in battle to save wildlife

rivers and lakes. This problem has become acute in the past 18 months. Because only 17 per cent of the land is suitable for farming, there is great pressure on marginal land, in which wild animals have traditionally roamed freely.

In colonial times cultivation within 20 yards of any river bank was forbidden, a rule that was long since enforced. Huge numbers of mangrove trees—more than eight times the limit recommended by the Forestry Department, according to one report—are being cut along the river banks and along the coastal areas.



systematically destroying the scenery and wildlife habitat of the Shimba Hills National Reserve.

According to the International Planned Parenthood Association, the soaring birth rate in Kenya, one of the highest in the world, will halve the productive land a head by the end of the century. An intensive birth-control campaign has been launched by the Government and the reestablishment of the rule of law are crucial if the complex pressures on the environment are to be eased.

G. W.

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Beside the Serpentine and Round Pond the ornithological Department of the Environs places little cages as clearing stations for birds have succumbed to the chances of life in a park. On these bird-cages written: "When a bird is herein please telephonically inform any park constable" herein is a living example what the great Fowler (of not birds) described as a f word. Anybody speaking writing plain English have put "in here."

Whereby and many strange beasts of the (whereat, wherefrom, wh whereof, whereon, wheres wherethrough, whereto, with) today have a wh formality, or look as Jo the tooth as mastodons, or Fowler judged that rest whereby generally sug that the writer had a ten to formal words or to pe haviour.

election contemplating a proper electoral process is the internal settlement with all its shortcomings. We must not simply allow it to wither and die as hitherto we have done. If all else fails it may still prove to be the only alternative to a bloody fight to a finish.

**John Davies**

The author is a former Tory spokesman on foreign affairs and Conservative MP for Walsby.

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adoption of the context of the declaration ass media removes a threat to the freedom international press. The version is comprehended down from the threatening document proposed. Since many ions that endorsed the by acclamation yesterday to keep their a right rein, the one retains a notable the tribute pays it is none the less that, in the circumstance is cause for relief ulation that the relations possessing a s were able to win of the principle from t cannot abide the contribution the media could make to the promotion of human rights, peace, understanding and so forth it repeatedly implied that it was not only for the media but also for the state to decide whether they were contributing satisfactorily or not. It imposed a duty on governments to "ensure that those mass media which come under their authority" observe the terms of the declaration, and to grant their protection to journalists following their "with conscientiousness and impartiality."

One man's impartiality is another man's propaganda. The western countries rightly attached the utmost importance to the principle that outside the constraints of the laws on decency and defamation, it must

the Soviet Union that a secret campaign against it was being launched from various majestic and enunciations on free information from the nations. The Unesco was intended to give guided guidance, and in a source of the initiative surprising that the finally proposed tended to an active government with a political supervision and did not, the product unlike those, the promiser which some-unscribes the buyer's while appearing to down with safeguards. It is dangerous because the declarations, even thoughable, do represent innumeries of accepted of international. The text was liberally with references to be for the media to judge what news is fit to print, with any fact of emphasis from the source, being chosen by the contrary tendency by the truth. But many developing countries saw all too little balance in the current state of affairs. In many cases this was not because of any tendency to regard shackles as the proper uniform of the press. The international news agencies are overwhelmingly western in their origins and assumptions, with the limitations as well as the virtues that that implies. Discerning what was by their lights consistent bias in coverage of affairs, the countries would have welcomed sanctions for political controls, with a view to exercising them with the highest motives.

The story of the Unesco bargaining is essentially the story of how those nations were detached from the Soviet Union, until at last a draft could be approved

United States Senate last July, to accede to Carter's earnest at the embargo on arms Turkey be lifted, it the Administration to regular reports on the of efforts to reach a of the Cyprus conflict. se of getting something n those reports, the ation has now come discreetly with "sugge- r a resumption of the licks between the two communities. They have n, it seems, informally, o communities, and to c and the Cyprus govern- somebody also gave them Washington correspond- a Turkish newspaper, blished them last week. egyptian's desire for anyone familiar with the of the problem—that es are expected to react ily". Since then another newspaper has said that, ntrary, the initial reac- Turkish Government is "rather negative". e Government will not icially until after the ankara of an American r Warren Christopher, of the month.

uring Turkey's official t third parties should of the Cyprus problem it to those directly con- cantious and points an be seen as relatively e everywhere there is silence, there is least n for hope. Only the yprriot socialist party, is condemned the sug- uthright, and that appa- e done in the absence rty leader, Dr. Lyssa- o should not be.

regarded as final. The other Greek Cypriot parties have been getting gradually more uncomfortable with their official position of refusing to resume talks unless the Turkish proposals of last April are first either withdrawn or improved—a position which for the first time has given the Turkish argument that it is the Greeks who are "intransigent" a certain plausibility in the eyes of world opinion. Observers have had for some weeks the impression that the (Greek) Cyprus Government would eventually agree to resume talks on the basis of the guidelines agreed last year between the late President Makarios and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Demetris. The American suggestions perhaps provide an opportunity for it to do that in somewhat more hopeful circumstances.

The Greek Cypriots were certainly encouraged by the endorsement of their basic demand—for the removal of foreign troops—which they obtained from the United Nations General Assembly earlier this month. The resolution, passed by 110 votes to 4, of course has no practical effect (and the Greek Cypriots have no illusions about this). But it was an impressive reminder of Turkey's virtual isolation on this issue, which cuts across all the usual East-West or North-South divisions. The Greek Cypriots are now engaged on the much more difficult task of trying to get a resolution adopted by the Security Council. They asked for sanctions, but know they will not get them. The United States, and Western countries generally, are anxious to soothe a still petulant Turkey rather than to reopen the

Professor P. B. Fellgett recently announced resignation as the Astronomer Royal for raises issues which deserve serious consideration. He has been a devoted and devoted. No details of the circumstances have been heard, but the underlying are two familiar: the one with sides and the other with Professor Reddish is unprinciples which are at the more profound and wider implications that in danger of going by

Science Research Council has been trying to increase the effectiveness of the Royal Society Edinburgh as a "astronomy factory" available to astronomers generally, and this sounds not only wise and sensible, but also the logical consequence of SRC's aims. An Astronomer Royal worthy of his post knows that scientific research is not done in this way, being a part of the inspiration and dedication of individuals or small astrateups which have grown up. Like love, research and discovery must be won in the laboratory hour-per-day three-and-a-half-and-sixty-five-days dedication, and even then it is, like the corporation, only when hope has been Planning, effective use of reference and scientific findings in the sciences, but in research, without this inspiration and conviction.

For very nature, administrative organizations cannot understand it, as it is, as we are to remain true to the post, organize themselves in institutional ways which puzzle outsiders. All some of its members have such experience, SRC as a new venture, but out and there cannot have knowledge of what it is and what it takes. More-

research in the country. The solution is for SRC to be given a more realistic view of what is enable it to develop the kind of handiness which the old DSIR did possess, not seeking to direct but to help; so far as its resources allow giving to each according to his need, and its resources are limited preferring to spread its support so as to preserve the vital asset of the community of people dedicated to the hard task of new knowledge, and qualified to carry out that task.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER FELMIGET,  
Department of Cybernetics,  
University of Reading,  
3 Ebury Gate, Reading.

## Ulster prisoners

From Mr. John Meehan

Sir, Now that the chapter is officially closed, we would like, through your columns, to reflect upon Mr. Mason's conduct of the recent Ulster Prisoners' Inquiry.

Given the times we live in, I should emphasise that the Legal Action Group is not a political organisation in Mr. Mason's sense of the term, but simply a group of lawyers and social workers concerned with the human rights of legal services.

The real problem was not caused by the prison officers' refusal to conduct remand prisoners so court; it arose through Mr. Mason's attitude to the role of law in this province.

the contribution the media could make to the promotion of human rights, peace, understanding and so on, but it repeatedly implied that it was not only for the media but also for the state to judge whether they were contributing satisfactorily or not. It imposed a duty on governments to "ensure that those mass media which come under their authority" observe "in terms of the declaration, and to grant their protection to journalists following their trade" "with conscientiousness and impartiality."

One man's impartiality is another man's propaganda. The western countries rightly attached the utmost importance to the principle that outside the constraints of the laws of decency and defamation, it must be left for the media to judge what is best fit to print, with any faults or omissions, from the source being balanced by the contrary tendencies of another. But many developing countries saw all too little balance in the current state of affairs. In many cases this was not because of any tendency to regard shackles as the proper uniform of the press. The international news agencies are overwhelmingly western in their origins and assumptions, with all limitations as well as the virtues that await inspection. Discerning what was by their lights a consistent bias in coverage of their affairs, some countries would have welcomed sanctions for political controls with a view to exercising them with the highest motives.

The story of the Unesco bargaining is essentially the story of how those nations were detached from the Soviet Union, until at last a draft could be approved

that seems to omit all potentially oppressive phrases. Some of the credit for that must go to the respect in which liberal ideas are held even by those who dare not live by them. Some credit must go to the persistence and force of EEC delegations, acting in unison. For Unesco does not like to act in opposition to the strong feelings of the majority. But most credit, perhaps, must go to the United States, which let it be known that in return for a satisfactory compromise, it would be prepared to give backing from its own deep pocket to the parts of the declaration that call for a louder voice for developing nations. The promise of assistance in building up alternative news sources was wisely judged to be more substantial than any phrases in an international declaration.

The final version has a somewhat anodyne air. It is full of phrases that no-one could disagree with, and no-one agree on the exact sense of. Its emphasis is still too much towards the propagandist function of the media, rather than their informative role (the distinction is not merely a subjective one), but since no external responsibility for enforcement is indicated, that scarcely matters. It will be more useful as an authority to the states of liberty of information than to their opponents, but it is unlikely to advance the cause in any country where that liberty is circumscribed. The worst that can be said of it now is that it does not threaten to make things worse; but in its earlier form it might well have done.

very imperfectly healed wounds left by the embargo. The general view of Western governments remains that the best hope of a solution lies in the intercommunal talks, and that Turkey must be coaxed rather than bullied into offering something, through those talks, which the Greek Cypriots can reasonably be asked to accept.

If taken in that spirit, the American suggestions would seem to be on the right lines, though of course they would have to be made much more precise in the process of actual negotiation. They envisage a zonal federation in which some cross-settlement between the zones would be allowed, but not such as to endanger the basic communal character of each zone, and hence the security of the Turkish Cypriots in their own zone. They envisage a federal government and parliament which would exercise some real powers, but would not be able to override the strong opposition of either community. And they envisage "significant geographical readjustments in favour of the Greek Cypriot side", which must be assumed to mean something more than the mere tinkering with the existing partition line offered in the Turkish proposals of last April.

The Turkish prime minister, Mr Ecevit, acknowledged in an interview earlier this month that "the United States of America especially in the last few months has a helpful attitude towards Turkey to find solutions to its problems". He should see the suggestions on Cyprus as a further manifestation of that attitude, and be prepared to respond in kind.

When on Monday, November 6, the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland affirmed the long-standing and important right of persons in police custody—at which stage all of whom are presumed innocent—to be brought before the courts, Mr Mason's response was one of simple expediency, in exploiting the primacy of statute to suspend that right.

This is not the first time that we have witnessed the unedifying spectacle of a Westminister session being disrupted by an emergency session to change the law of Northern Ireland to the convenience of our local administration. The stability of the law in any democratic state, however, rests to a large extent on the principle of non est to be changed overnight, no-one can say where he will stand tomorrow.

Equally disturbing was the way in which Mr Mason castigated those lawyers who brought the habeas corpus proceedings in the Northern Ireland cases. He said that they were doing so only because of their dependence upon regular work from the Provisional IRA. This was a most contemptuous response. Indeed one wonders where Mr Mason's twisted attitude would place the twisted attitude of the British Government towards the release. Perhaps the Secretary of State would observe that Sir Robert also depends on regular work from terrorists?

What Mr Mason has betrayed is an attitude in which the law has no status independent of those who use or pronounce upon it, that it is there to be manipulated according to one's partisan creed and that anyone who disagrees with him must be part of a terrorist plot.

The time has come for Mr Callaghan to consider whether Mr Mason is to be taken as the best available ambassador for the British parliamentary tradition.

JOHN McELEAN, Northern Ireland  
Convener,  
Legal Action Group,  
Flat 4, 6 College Park,  
Belfast, Northern Ireland.

From Lord Walston -  
Sir, There can be few who, on reading of Mr Mugabe's so-called "assassination list," did not react as did your editorial of November 17. I wonder, however, how many have been fastidious enough to suffer Modern war is a beastly and barbaric business. A civil war is liable to be more beastly and barbaric than most. There is already ample evidence that hundreds, if not thousands, of civilian Africans are victims of European wars suffering torture and death at the hands of freedom fighters (or terrorists) or the forces of law and order (or white oppressors and their African thugs). There is also evidence, as you say, that the Africans referred to in *The Times* of November 21, that many civilian Africans look on Bishop Muzorewa, Mr Sibhole, and Chief Chirau, as traitors to the cause of African freedom, and collaborate with the forces of law and order who are in rebellion against Her Majesty.

Is the threat to kill certain named collaborators (those who, in 1940, we would have called traitors) a crime? If so, it is a crime against the present Rhodesian regime, a greater evil than the indiscriminate slaughter of thousands of innocent civilians? If such a threat helps to weaken the Rhodesian Government and thereby shorten the war, must we not, in all honesty, admit that fewer innocent people would suffer. After all, in the last war, we were prepared to subject the Germans to the horrors of bombing in order to free this world from the threat of Nazi domination and to shorten the fighting. Is it not possible that similar thoughts have prompted Mr Mugabe to publish this list that you so soundly condemned?

Yours truly,  
WALSTON,  
House of Lords,  
November 21.

From Mr Hugh Fraser, (MP for Stafford and Stone (Conservative)) Sir, On military matters Lord Wigg is as helpful as he is well informed, but even the best Navy in the world could not give Norway a safe haven, because of the omission of Lourenco Marques, was worthless. Here Lord Wigg and I, I hope are in broad agreement.

But his fear that the Russian Navy would take over from ours, should we be in a position to do so, in circumstances of those days simply a "canard" which will not float. That the Soviets, after abstaining in the Security Council both on the vote for the Beira blockade in April and again in December, 1966, on making good their promise to do so, have been made the chosen Navy instrument of that body is as far fetched as snow on tropical sea boots.

Perhaps the Soviets, by joining the French in abstaining foresaw the western and American withdrawal of the war, and the consequent danger of a blockade in terms of international law. This was clearly set out by Mr Dean Acheson, himself a founding father of the United Nations, in an address to the American Bar Association in May of 1968. Amongst other articles noted were Articles 33(1) and 27(3).

British Law Officers must have been aware of this. Certainly the Royal Navy were ordered to operate in kid gloves with these firmly tied behind its back. The Pacific Fleet was sent to the blue Pacific because of the safety valve of Lourenço Marques was fortunately never called.

If it had been and force used, British Naval personnel could have found themselves pursued for murder, for piracy, for interference in national courts. Such was the risk of taking what we claimed to be an internal dispute to the United Nations.

That move, at least, the Conservatives opposed, but for ten years both parties supported it, a wasteful and worthless Naval continuance.

"O what a tangled web we weave  
When first we practice to deceive."

Yours,  
HUGH FRASER,  
House of Commons.  
November 21.

From Mr Mark Adler  
Sir, This morning (November 15)  
I was shouted at in a most aggressive  
manner by a police constable  
because I was slow to pull into the  
kerb when loudly hooted on behalf  
of a cement-flying lorry which  
was elbowing its way through the  
traffic. I was given the impression  
that I would be arrested if I did  
not quickly move aside and stop  
to allow it precedence.  
I don't know whether this  
abuse of power has any legal  
basis but it is most unpleasant.  
Yours faithfully,  
MARK ADLER,  
14 Clement,  
Lamber Grove,  
Essex,  
Surrey.  
November 15.

From Mr D. A. Simpson  
 Sir, On Friday afternoon having  
 read your news item headlined  
 "Prime number record broken", I  
 walked into one of my mathematical  
 classes of 11-year-old boys, and  
 read the article on the blackboard.  
 When I got to "2 to the 21,701st  
 power" I stopped. There was a  
 light pause.  
 First boy: "What a big number,  
 Sir." Second boy: "But, Sir, that  
 number can't possibly be prime; 2  
 goes into it."  
 "Could you have meant 2 to the  
 21st power minus 1?"  
 Yours sincerely  
 DONALD SIMPSON,  
 Winchester House School,  
 Crickley,  
 or thereabouts.  
 November 20.

From Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, QC,  
MP for Kinross and West Perthshire  
(Conservative)

Sir, There are two quite distinct methods of criminal prosecution in Great Britain—the procedure in Scotland and the procedure in England and Wales. The two procedures could not be more different. In Scotland, the role of the lawyers take of the Scottish tradition, but as a practitioner in the criminal courts of Scotland, may I say once again that the English procedure is grossly defective and perverts the intent of justice and the presumption of innocence of the accused. No case demonstrates the cruelty and wrong of the English procedure better than the case of the *Earl of Stirling*, and I do not use this example as one person in public life concerned for the fate of another person in public life, justice may be such that the accused is innocent, but the charge, nor the lowest level of its protection. But because the Minhead case involves, amongst the accused, a public figure, it points the wrong way in the English procedure produces.

The magistrates' hearing in England is historic in its origin, and has no basis or justification now. In medieval times the ordinary law courts were the courts of assize, and the barons' court was a respite to those in power and authority was frequently accused in the barons' courts or by those who controlled the courts of crimes they had not committed or on trumped-up charges. The barons' court was the power of the barons was being effectively checked, a safeguard was introduced in answer to this corruption whereby the people had to be satisfied that there was a genuine case to answer before the barons' court was to be held. In those days there was no press and therefore the chances of bogus convictions was all the greater.

The necessity for such a safeguard in England disappeared centuries ago, specifically in 1215, when the Magna Carta required that the accused be given two hearings: a traditional procedure was justified on the basis of entrenchment. The 1967 Criminal Justice Act was an abominable compromise. It preserved the traditional procedure for the accused, but the two hearings while pretending to protect the interests of the accused by requiring reporting restrictions to be imposed unless they were asked to be lifted by the accused or one of his counsel, in fact gave the prosecutor the right whereby the evidence against the accused, and, worse, the prosecuting counsel's version of what it would be or might be was known in advance to all prospective members of the jury. In England, the right of a defendant to a fair trial is being destroyed.

In Scotland there are no magistrates' hearing and never has been, because we grant to the prosecutor the assumption of integrity and we

From the Reverend Michael Bourdeaux

Sir, The theme of Dr Edward Norman's Reith lectures—that Western Christianity has identified Christian teaching too closely with the political ideals of liberal democracy and has secularized spiritual values—basically made a valid point and deserved further analysis, but his third lecture on the Soviet Union has led him into waters which he does not have the instruments to navigate.

In his dense text scarcely a paragraph is without its non sequitur or false reading of the evidence. He misunderstands Solzhenitsyn, the nature of Soviet persecution, the rights of official church leaders and most Orthodox Christians who seek a different answer. Perhaps most serious of all is his assumption which flies in the face of ninety per cent of the evidence, that the Church under communism is in decline. This latter point is the basis of the entire theme of my research staff at Keston College, all of whom are professionally engaged in a study of this subject. Ten thousand churches closed under Khrushchev—as forty thousand had done earlier under Stalin, and because religion was in decline, but because of a display of naked force by the State.

In designating the "All Russian Social Christians" as neo-fascists and anti-semitic, he has accepted a Soviet slander, ignoring the evidence to the contrary and easing

From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, and Mr Brian Wrobel

Sir, We have just heard that on November 23, 1978, the Supreme Court of the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic will consider the appeal of Alexander Podrabinek, whose trial on August 15, 1978, for anti-Soviet slander involved numerous violations of Soviet legal procedure. The sentence was five years' imprisonment.

The manner in which this case has been conducted by Soviet judicial and prosecution authorities has resulted in the violation to date of at least 78 legal provisions. The opportunity is now open to the Supreme Court to rectify this.

Article 332 of the Code of Criminal Procedure places the specific obligation upon the court to con-

**From the Secretary-General of the Arts Council**  
Sir, I am reluctant to protract this discussion in your column because it might appear (wrongly) that the Arts Council's sole criterion in this matter is the quality of the Prospect

However, I must comment on Henry's curious interpretation (letter, November 21) of the late Lord Chandos's remark that when the National Company moved to the South Bank the Old Vic Theatre would be free "to pursue its own course". This can in no way be taken to mean that the Arts Council would subsidize that building. The council's subsidies are for the theatre companies which create product. They may also own buildings, but we do not subsidize venues alone to enable those who run them to be impresarios buying in artistic product.

*From Mr Harry Kidd*

Sir. So far from becoming more open, government is now even more closed than usual. Her Majesty's Stationery Office have had a strike on for the best part of three months. While government publications are being printed, pitifully small quantities reach the Government bookshop in Holborn, and are rapidly sold out, with no possibility of any more coming in until the strike is over.

The public are therefore being denied any detailed knowledge of what is going on in Parliament, which is a serious loss to the country for the Government, but none so good for the rest of us.

Legislation nowadays is too serious a matter to be left to the usual methods of legislative procedure. The complexity of the constant flood of legislation produces serious, even if unintended, side-effects. The full exposure of the legislative process to public scrutiny is essential if errors are to be avoided.

May I therefore suggest that no legislation should go beyond Second Reading until sufficient copies of the proposed amendments are available for public inspection. If the legislation is desperately urgent, emergency measures can no doubt be taken to make copies available to the public. There is always available a large number of typewriting machines at Westminster; or the nuns in Holland who printed the *Economist* when its printers were on strike could doubtless turn out

An important example is the Companies Bill, read the second time this week. No more than forty copies of this important Bill were available at HMSO. Copies of votes and proceedings containing proposed amendments will be at least as hard to obtain.

Until these difficulties are removed and the papers available in sufficient quantity to the public, the progress of the Bill should be delayed.

Yours faithfully,  
ST JOHN KIDD,  
Harris's College,  
Oxford.  
November 20.

*From Mr John Gillard Watson*  
Sir, Today a note arrived from HMSO to say that there was still no settlement of the dispute which has put a stop to the issue of government publications.

I am surprised that you do not appear to regard this matter as of any importance. As long as *The Times* is published, it should take the opportunity to emphasize that this, as I have already pointed out to you, is a very important matter indeed.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN GILLARD WATSON,  
Librarian,  
University of Oxford Institute of  
Economics and Statistics,  
Manor Road,  
Oxford.  
November 21.

From Mr Edward Smith

Sir, As chairman of the London meeting at which Pastor Musa was to have spoken perhaps I may be allowed to comment. I met the pastor on one of his earlier visits to this country: he is a man of simple evangelical faith whose sole ambition is to preach the gospel of Christ. I have no doubt whatever that his purpose in applying to come to Britain in September was not political. The British Foreign Office has disagreed but gives no reason for doing so.

But even if Pastor Musa's reason for coming here were political, would that justify excluding him? Would that justify visits to this country freely for political purposes? This country is not at war with Rhodesia and unless there was good reason for supposing that the pastor might cause a civil disorder there was no valid reason for banning him. The Foreign Office pleads that his banning was in "the public interest". I suggest that it is very much more in the public interest to allow him to visit. The government may have to exclude those with whom it disagrees or promptly withdraw. Such powers of political censorship are highly necessary.

Yours faithfully,  
BERNARD SMITH, Secretary,  
Christian Affirmation Campaign,  
24 Heath Park Road,  
Hidea Park.

November 17.

From Mr John Taylor

It was for many years one of the prime symbols of The Shmoo, together with a row of pens and propelling pencils along the top pocket welt; those curious coin-purses with the leather strap to shake your coppers down into; and the practice of keeping one's cigarette lighter in a little tin bag.

The aesthetic pleasures of a flower are psychologically heightened, surely, by the fact of its inevitable demise. Or might we further prolong animation by growing the bloom directly through the button-hole from a handful of humus in the breast pocket?

Roses drooped quickly, agreed, but I was brought up to believe that a gentleman only wore a rose upon St George's Day; the carnation being the correct decoration for the everyday buttonhole.

And this, of course, focuses the dilemma of the disappearing or the too-small lapel buttonhole. For such a small carnation is only one eighth of an inch wide to firmly house the carnation's calyx without buckling the lapel.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
Editor and Director,  
*Style International*,  
9 Denmark Street, WC2.  
November 22.



# Fashion

by Prudence Glynn

## The breadth of the realm

One of the great strengths of the fashion industry in this country is its breadth. The Italians can make everything except formal evening dress, the Americans stop short at the five o'clock tea break. Scandinavians opt for raw cottons and bold, strange squiggle prints, the Germans regiment suits and coats, and then somewhere the British come along and provide something of everything. I am talking about the designer end of fashion, too, where the ideas start and the copies come from. The French have a tradition of this variety. In Paris you can find important collections which have moved from the general idea of the couturier, expected to dress his customer from dawn to dawn, to the specific. Last Saturday I had the chance to present my version of what we can do at Castle Howard, a fitting house in which to show the finest of British design if you believe that fashion, design, decor, lifestyle indeed, are not just a heritage of the past but a wealth of the future. The show was recorded by Yorkshire Television and was transmitted last night, so some readers may already be aware of the content of this page.

### The designers at Castle Howard

Yanessa Keegan, who shows at the Individual Clothes Show. Sporty knits in Courtauld's synthetic fibres. A clean-cut daywear look.

Fred Spurr. Imagination and brilliant sense of colour allied to the realities of the fashion business. Gussy day clothes, significant racing silk dresses. Lots of detail—the slits on the sides of the skirts are zips.

Kaffe Fassett. Best known for his work with Bill Gibb. The cottage industry, hand-made look which influences the High Street. Tapestry patterns, antimacassar lace inserts, big, big sleeves.

Janice Wainwright. Svelte, sophisticated leisure clothes, flattering, informal, raffine.

Ragence Lam. A new interpretation of an overworked word, ethnic.

Murray Arbeid. Superbly made. Infinitely flattering interpretations of the prettiest look, in the best fabrics.

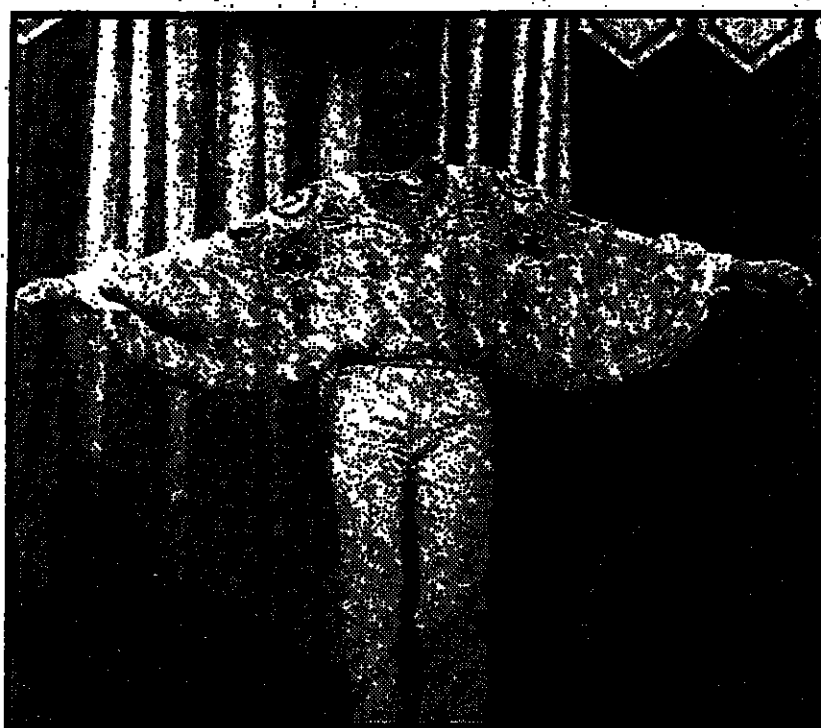
Paul Peacock. Great designers have always worked for the theatre. For Castle Howard we asked Paul Peacock to make "fancy dress" a wasp, a ladybird and a spider, all in fine leather or kid from Gainsborough. They turned out to be pure disco.

Zandra Rhodes. Just one of the world's great, responsible for the reintroduction of tulle, fantasie, colour...

Shelagh Brown and Sheridan Barnett. A very specific look which is specially associated with young English fashion.

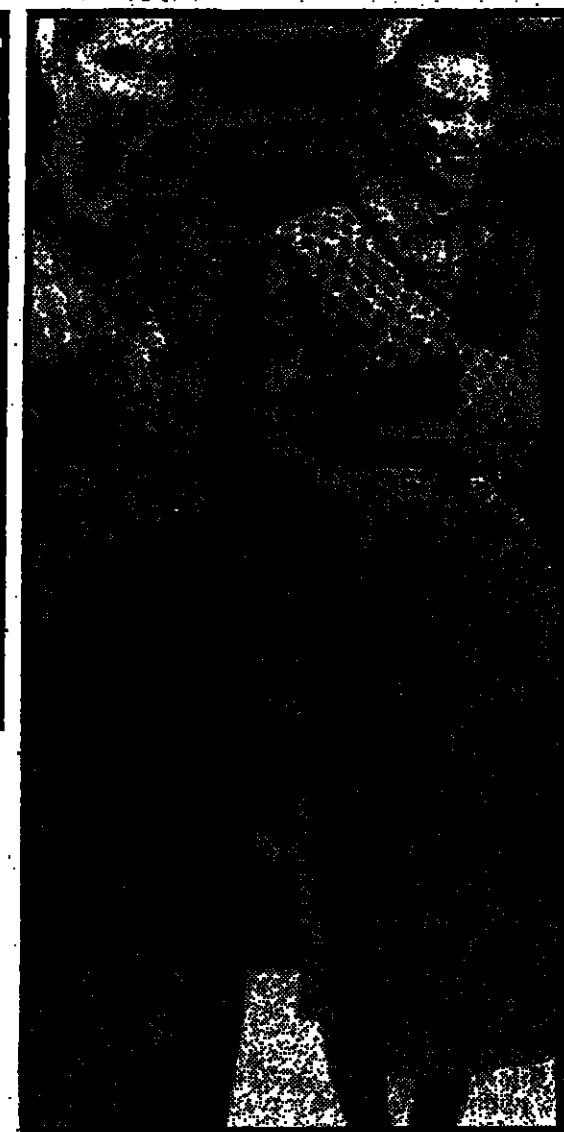
Sir Norman Hartnell. Technical miracles, and our first and only knight of fashion.

Above: Finale of the fashion show from Castle Howard, which appropriately has one of the finest costume collections from the past. Left to right: Cream evening dress with a border print, by Yuki, brilliant blue satin sheath bloomed in a tulip of black, hand-printed tulle by Zandra Rhodes; (far) Tenny Wong's grey and white ermine worked mink, made by Calman Links; fuchsia silk taffeta by Sheridan Barnett and Shelagh Brown, hat by Brian Harris; Sir Norman Hartnell's midnight blue, star-spangled mermaid dress, tulle by Garrard; mauve and scarlet lurex layers, marabou hat, by Ragence Lam; white tulle crinoline with a white printed chiffon bodice by Zandra Rhodes; entirely beaded, midnight blue, trained dress and cape by Sir Norman Hartnell. Diamond bracelets and necklace by Garrard. Front: Huge shell pink tulle ball gown by Murray Arbeid; mauve, scarlet and green lurex jersey blouse and Turkish trousers by Ragence Lam.



Above: Kaffe Fassett.

Delicately coloured batwing jersey, knitted in one piece, crochet pace inserted collar, tapestry motif shoulders. Right: Parti-coloured pure silk dresses, shirts, hand knit gilets. Veiled jockey caps. Pink and green, mauve and blue. By Fred Spurr.



Above left: A dress in fine cream jersey with a blue speckled border print. It is cut in one piece and has one seam, along to top of the arms. By Yuki.

Above: Palest blue faille coat, pale blue fox cuffs, mermaid sequinned dress. These dresses are made in organdie or net on the body, take completely to piece and then beaded so that there are no seams or joins at all. Hartnell is one of the few houses in the world able to make these shimmering sheaths now.

Photograph by Harry Kerr

There's only one way to take Glenfiddich.

### Seriously.

You can take it straight. Or with a little plain water. But do remember that you're tasting no ordinary Scotch. Glenfiddich is a pure, single malt. Distilled in the ancient way, in traditional handbeaten copper stills. The result is, perhaps the finest whisky the Highlands have to offer. Take it slowly. Take it seriously.

'Glenfiddich' in Gaelic means 'Valley of the Deer.'



Harrods and Fieldcrest invite you



to meet Mary Martin  
the actress, the author, the designer at  
Harrods on the 2nd floor,  
24th November, 11 am and 3 pm,  
to view her beautiful collection  
for the Bed and Bath.  
Original patterns including "Balloons"  
inspired by some of her  
great moments in the theatre.

Fieldcrest

Harrods  
London SW1 1LH 01-20





## DURTY CLEAR

The Queen, with Edinburgh, this evening, the 'Honourable' women at Arms with at dinner at St James's Palace.

The Lady Jean Rankin and Sir Martin Gifford were in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
November 22: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, the afternoon attended the Young Women's Christian Association of Great Britain's Christmas Fair at the Europa Hotel.

The Lady Anne Tennant was in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
November 22: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, was present at a luncheon given by the Research at the Royal Canadian Hotel in the evening. Her Royal Highness, as Patron, visited the Hon. Richard Selby.

Mrs. Jean Egerton-Warburton was in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
November 22: The Duke of Kent, Prince of Wales, was present at a luncheon given by the Board Meeting of the Imperial War Museum on board HMS Belfast.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Norfolk County Committee, was in attendance.

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## Fortcoming marriages

**Mr W. M. R. Davies and Miss J. D. Elliot**  
The engagement is announced between Mr W. M. R. Davies, son of the late Dr M. J. R. Davies and the late Dr J. D. Davies, and Miss J. D. Elliot, daughter of Mr J. D. Elliot, of Colchester, Essex.

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## The Booker Prize is won by Iris Murdoch

By Philip Howard  
Iris Murdoch, the queen of the tangled 'jungle' of her contemporary consciousness, has won this year's Booker Prize for fiction. It is just as well for the reputation of Britain's most important award, since a literary history of the twentieth century is likely to give Miss Murdoch a place of honour in our first 11 of novels.

It is the fourth time that one of her books has been nominated for the Booker Prize, the value of which has been doubled to £5,000 to mark its twentieth anniversary.

Sir Alfred Ayer, chairman of the judges, presided at a meeting held at the Royal Albert Hall, London, last night. It was there that the judges, after a long and arduous process, decided to award the prize to Iris Murdoch.

There are some purblind fools who say that Murdoch's prizes are strange and characters strange, unlike the home lives of their 'life is older than my novels'.

Mr J. A. Savin and Miss J. R. Kennet are engaged to be married. The engagement is announced between Mr J. A. Savin, son of the late Dr M. J. R. Davies and the late Dr J. D. Davies, and Miss J. R. Kennet, daughter of Mr J. R. Kennet, of Colchester, Essex.

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## Today's engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh receive all Black and White members of the Order of the British Empire at the Royal Albert Hall, London, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of White Tower.

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## Western belief 'echoed by third world'

By Sir John Gifford  
Western Christians, who listen to the Latin American church in the belief that it is the authentic voice of the third world, hear only the echoes of their own words, Dr Sir John Gifford said last night in the fourth of his series of lectures on BBC Radio 4.

In this lecture, which was entitled 'The Implications of Political Religion', Dr Gifford, Dean of Peterhouse, Cambridge, said that Christians of the developed world regarded Latin American Christians as spokesmen for the oppressed and exploited of the third world.

It was true, he said, that South America was the only wholly Christian continent of the developing world. Yet there was much that was very familiar about the political and religious situation of the third world.

Much of their thinking, he said, depends on ideological preconceptions that are not distinctly Christian, nor Latin American.

Latin American Christianity does provide a very clear example of what happens when Christians accommodate the political values of surrounding opinion. In the 1930s and 1940s, church leaders adopted the ideas of the European corporate state; in the 1950s they were attracted to developmentalism; in the 1960s they reflected the radical critique of capitalist society that came from Western Marxism.

Much of what was taken by Western Christians as characteristically Latin American Catholicism, Dr Gifford said, was in fact a continuation of the European corporate state, but there was a conservative majority of native priests whose ideas had failed to find respectable articulation.

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## OBITUARY

### SIR ALEC KIRKBRIDE

#### Life of service in the Middle East

Sir Alec Kirkbridge, KCMG, CVO, OBE, MC, who died yesterday at the age of 81, was one of the most distinguished of a small number of British officers and officials who, having through long service in Arab countries acquired a profound knowledge of the Arab character and an ability to work with and gain the confidence of Arabs, rendered outstanding service to British interests in the Middle East from the last years of the First World War until well after the Second World War.

Born in 1897, he went to Egypt with his parents in 1906 and received his education in French mission schools there, thus early becoming familiar with Arabic and their language, to his subsequent benefit. In 1916 he joined the British forces in Egypt and saw service in the Palestine campaign; and in 1918, while he was on a reconnaissance mission in the Jordanian desert, he met with T. E. Lawrence and his help, posted to the Arab army which, under the Amir Faisal and Lawrence, was operating against the Turks on the flanks of the British forces. His service with this irregular formation later earned him a well-merited MC.

In 1920 he was sent to administer the territories East of the Jordan which were part of the British Mandate over Palestine. Soon afterwards, however, these territories were occupied by the Amir Abdullah, Faisal's younger brother, who had been sent up with a few soldiers and some funds by the British with the object of recovering Syria from the French, who had recently expelled Faisal from it. With Abdullah, Sir Kirkbridge soon reached a perfect understanding which was to prove highly beneficial later on; and in 1921, on his recommendation, the British Government accepted a fait accompli and recognised Abdullah as ruler of a newly created Mandated Territory of Transjordan, on condition that he renounced his designs on Syria. His country was placed under the British High Commissioner for Palestine, but the provisions of the Mandate relating to Jewish immigration were held not to apply to it, thus removing a potential source of trouble.

In 1921 Kirkbridge, on demobilisation, was transferred to the Colonial Administration Service in Palestine, and for the next ten years served in a number of posts in either Palestine or Transjordan. In 1931, to his pleasure, he was appointed British Resident in Amman, where he renewed his friendship with the Amir Abdullah and soon established the closest collaboration with him. Abdullah was ruling his country in an autocratic style which admirably suited its primitive people, and for the next fifteen years he and Kirkbridge, who was a cost to Great Britain, maintained order and solvency and established a simple form of administration, while the country's only armed force, the Arab Legion, was developed by two exceptional British officers into an effective fighting force.

During the First World War, when almost all Arabs believed in an Axis victory and many hoped for it as a means of expelling the Jews from Palestine, the Amir Abdullah, while leaning heavily on Kirkbridge for moral support and reassurances, remained staunch in his allegiance to Great Britain; not only did his country remain quiet, but Lord Robbings replied.

Professor R. Dahrendorf, who died on November 19, was born in 1916 and educated at the Universities of Birmingham, Göttingen, Berlin and London. Since 1966 he had been Professor of Persian Studies at Manchester University, where he went as a Lecturer in 1950, after war-time employment in the Foreign Office. In Manchester, his fine scholarship flourished in a university where promotion of the studies he presented, deserves praise.

An accomplished linguist, his range included Old Persian and Mongolian; he was the author of a reference Grammar of Persian. But his renown must chiefly rest on the translation of the Persian historian Juvaini's chronicle of the thirteenth century Mongol invasions of Iran and Central Asia, and his descendant, Hulagu, Boyle's translation of the History of the World Conqueror was published in 1958 and established him as a senior scholar with a Celtic regard for language and the scholar's for precision. His work in Mongolian and Central Asian history made Boyle the author of a tradition established by Barthold and Boyle's own mentor, the late Professor Minorsky. But his recent production of the translation of an important work by the Persian Sufi poet, Attar, the *Diwan-e Attar*, is evidence of Boyle's diversity of scholarship, extending from historical into religious literature.

This diversity is also illustrated by his keen interest in folklore. His death means the loss of a frequent contributor to its proceedings and an active member of its Committee. In the Papers of this Society many strands of disinterested and painstaking scholarship come together to provide exactly the kind of enlightenment which was Boyle's constant, quietly pursued quest.

His death will similarly be mourned by the Anglo-Mongolian Society, and all the other learned bodies in this country concerned with Iranian or Asiatic studies. Particularly serious will be the empty place he leaves on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of the Society for the Study of Persian Literature*, to whose deliberations he provided understanding of the processes of history and a fluent, and accurate sense of how it would be written.

## Service dinners

**HMS Dauntless**  
Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Chief Commandant of the Women's Royal Naval Service, was entertained at dinner by the Dauntless crew at the Officers' Mess last night. Lieutenant-Commander M. J. Savage, war-time employment in the Foreign Office, presented the Master and Wardens of the St. James's Palace.

**Corps of Royal Engineers**  
The Corps of Royal Engineers held an RE guest night in the Officers' Mess last night. The evening was presided over by the Master and Wardens of the St. James's Palace.

**Stationers' and Newspaper Makers'**  
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriff, was the principal guest at a lively dinner held by the Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company last night. The evening was presided over by the Master and Wardens of the St. James's Palace.

**British Insurance Law Association**  
The British Insurance Law Association held a dinner in the Officers' Mess last night. The evening was presided over by the Master and Wardens of the St. James's Palace.

**British Nutrition Foundation**  
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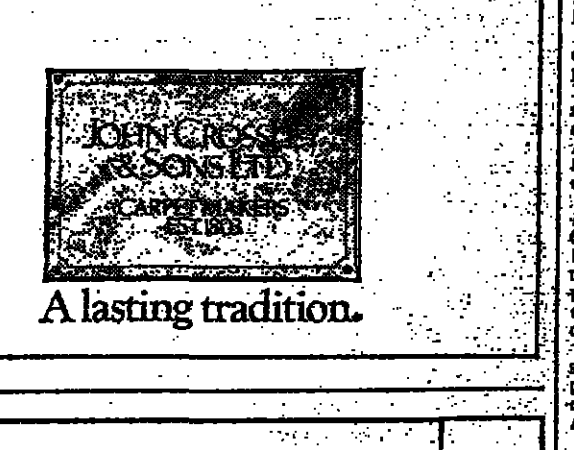
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## AS SEEN IN THE CORRIDORS OF POWER.



A lasting tradition.



re pleased to announce the opening of their London shop at 19 Old Bond Street and invite you to see our collection of exclusive sportswear and accessories.

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## 25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, Nov. 23, 1953.  
From Our Special Correspondent  
The story of the hoax practised upon the world of learning by the faking of a monkey's skull to match the genuine cranium of Pithecanthropus was carried a stage further over the weekend.

Dr Norman argued that the so-called theologians of liberation were a continuation of the European corporate state, but there was a conservative majority of native priests whose ideas had failed to find respectable articulation.

## Nine horse paintings fetch £256,000

By Geraldine Norman  
Sole Auction Correspondent  
Mr Thomas Webb Edge and his son of Straley Hall, near Nottingham, used to breed and train horses, and paint their horses every year or so between the years 1840 and 1842. The nine paintings, which he delivered to them and which had never left the house, were auctioned by Henry Spence yesterday from the estate of the late Mrs E. M. Edge for a total of £256,000. The entire contents of the house are being disposed.

The auctioneers had estimated the value of the seven best paintings at £18,000 to £19,000 each. In the event the prices ranged from £22,000 for a 'Horseman holding a bay banner under a tree', signed 'Thomas Webb Edge Junior' seated on a bay pony surrounded by other figures and his pointers in a moorland landscape, dated 1842.

The day's sale totalled £31,328, every lot finding a buyer. The dispersal continues today and tomorrow.

## Science report

### Medicine: Mutagen tests on resins

By the Staff of Nature  
Many thousands of tons of epoxy resins are used every year in the manufacture of protective coatings, paints and adhesives. But scientists at the Royal Danish School of Pharmacy in Copenhagen have found that some of these resins represent a potential cancer risk.

Dr J. Møller and his colleagues at the Department of Microbiology have been applying a well known test for mutagenicity to the resins. This test is based on the fact that mutagens are agents that interfere with the normal process of cell division and may produce undesirable genetic effects by causing specific errors to be incorporated into a cell's DNA.

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**LONDON EVENING NEWS**



# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

### d faces strict ing of price s as part of sanctions

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up contingency

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the Commons on  
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y the committee  
Mr Denis Healey,  
of the Exchequer,  
Hattersley, Secre-  
te for Prices and

Consumer Protection, which  
looks at difficult pay settle-  
ments, although the subject is  
not on the agenda for today's  
Cabinet meeting, it is possible  
that it may be discussed.

The Department of Industry  
yesterday confirmed that Mr  
Graham Bell, the civil servant  
in charge of the department's  
vehicles division in Detroit  
and would be seeing Ford man-  
agement. But a spokeswoman  
denied that he would be talk-  
ing to them about sanctions or  
the Government's attitude to  
the agreement reached by the  
United Kingdom management.

The department was unable  
to offer any comment on a draft  
letter, which is awaiting the  
signature of Mr Eric Varley,  
Secretary of State for Industry,  
to Sir Terence Becken, Ford's  
United Kingdom chairman.

It is understood that the letter  
was due to be sent sometime  
within the last 48 hours but has  
been held up for technical reasons  
to be spelled out to Ford that  
the company would be subjected  
to sanctions.

The department said the  
question of sanctions was still  
being discussed with other  
departments—chiefly the Treas-  
ury and the Department of  
Employment. It is expected that  
the announcement of imposition  
of sanctions will come from the  
Treasury.

Ford's stance in talks with  
the Government over sanctions  
has been that a prolonged  
strike which will have cost the  
company about £500m in lost  
production and which was  
brought about by the company's  
initial adherence to the 5 per  
cent guideline, was sufficient  
punishment.

Business Diary, page 25

### Offer terms value Harris group at £23.2m

By Alison Mitchell

Harris Queensway, the  
latest company to come to mar-  
ket, announced yesterday  
terms of an offer for sale.  
Dealers are already predicting  
that it will be well oversub-  
scribed.

Country Bank announced  
that underwriting has been  
completed for an offer of 5  
million ordinary shares of 20p  
at 155p valuing the group at  
£23.25m.

Through its High Street  
Harris carter, shops and  
Queensway furniture ware-  
houses, the group has become  
a household name. So far this  
year subscribers have far  
outweighed the shares on offer  
by the new companies coming  
to market.

The latest, Kitchen Queen,  
in which dealings started on  
Tuesday, was 33-times over-  
subscribed while Ernest Jones  
had 85 times too many would-  
be shareholders and Carriers  
Superfoods 105 times.

Mr Philip Harris, group  
chairman of Harris Queensway,  
took over his father's small  
three-shop carpet business in  
south London when he was 15.  
Now, at 36, he runs a chain of  
some 129 stores. Twenty-seven  
of these are in Scotland, trad-  
ing under the Harris name, and  
after the group's £428,000 cash  
takeover of the J. Ross chain  
earlier this year.

In July, 1977, Harris bought  
the loss-making Queensway  
warehouse group for £2m and  
has now turned it round into  
profits. The 23 Queensway dis-  
count stores are in Scotland,  
East Anglia and London.

Full details of the issue will  
be published on Monday and  
the application list will open  
next Thursday.

Ironically, a similar group,  
Allied Retailers, which came to  
market seven years ago, is cur-  
rently being taken over by

### Nube signals acceptance of Johnston bank inquiry proposals to end inter-union strife

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Reporter

The National Union of Bank Employees  
has agreed in principle to accept the  
recommendations of the Johnston inquiry  
on ending inter-union strife in the London  
clearing banks.

The inquiry recommended that Nube  
and the staff associations at Lloyds,  
National Westminster and Barclays should  
cease to exist, and a new body called the  
Clearing Banks' Union should take their  
place.

Dr Tom Johnston, chairman of the  
Scottish Macpower Services Commission,  
who has received the first formal  
responses from the unions and staff  
associations yesterday, but the meeting was  
cancelled because he has influenza.

A new meeting has been arranged for  
Friday, November 24, at 10.30am, Nube general  
secretary, said: "We hope that discussions

with the staff associations on the creation  
of the Clearing Banks' Union will reach  
an outline agreement, in accordance with  
the Johnston report, by Easter next year.  
That would mean we could put recom-  
mendations to our conference in April."

Lloyds' Staff Association believes the  
greatest difficulty is the report's recom-  
mendation that the new body should be  
affiliated to the TUC. Mr John Bealey,  
general secretary, said most of his  
members would not wish to belong to the  
TUC.

The report described the position of the  
Association of Scientific, Technical and  
Managerial Staffs in banking as  
"anomalous" but it is clear that far from  
pulling out of banking, the union is now  
making every effort to entrench its  
position. Its membership at Midland Bank  
has been falling steadily. The union has  
rejected the main Johnston proposals.

The staff associations want clarification

on whether the new body would be  
accepted for TUC affiliation. Present TUC  
policy is that organizations wishing to join  
the TUC should do so through an existing  
union. Nube, however, is convinced that  
affiliation would be possible.

The Johnston report recommended that  
the Clearing Banks' Union would have two  
tiers, one for national negotiations, the  
other for domestic negotiations. There  
would be a third tier "umbrella" to  
accommodate Nube's membership outside  
the clearing banks.

Mr Mills said yesterday: "We are  
going to re-examine the report as it affects  
the organization of people outside the  
banks. We are going to look at the  
structure of the third tier organization and  
the possibility of various members, such  
as those in the Scottish clearing banks and  
the finance houses, having sections in that  
tier."

Business Diary, page 25

### Technology 'threat to political system'

A forecast that unemploy-  
ment caused by new tech-  
nology, coupled with continual  
inflation, could result in a  
breakdown of law and order  
and a collapse of the present  
political system was made yester-  
day by Sir Charles Carter,  
vice-chancellor of Lancaster  
University and chairman of the  
research and management com-  
mittee of the Policy Studies  
Institute, London.

He was speaking at a con-  
ference on technology choice  
and the future of work,  
organized jointly by the British  
Association for the Advance-  
ment of Science and the Inter-  
mediate Technology Develop-  
ment Group.

Other speakers at the con-  
ference had suggested that the  
expected large increase in the  
number of unemployed caused  
by the introduction of new  
technology, in particular that  
of microprocessors, would not  
occur.

They argued that this had  
not happened in the past when  
new technologies had been in-  
troduced, and that the ser-  
vices sector would absorb  
those made redundant in the  
manufacturing sector.

Sir Charles said: "I believe  
unemployment will rise or  
remain high. In the course of  
that rise, people of low skill or  
intelligence will find them-  
selves in long-term unemploy-  
ment because what they offer  
will not be worth the socially  
acceptable wage."

The new technology that was  
now being introduced was  
genuinely different in its im-  
pact compared with all pre-  
vious technological changes.  
The service sector would not  
absorb those unemployed in  
manufacturing.

"Shorter hours and early  
retirement will bring only mar-  
ginal relief," Sir Charles said.  
He suspected that violent bouts  
of inflation would continue,  
and the combined result of in-  
flation and unemployment  
would involve a breakdown of  
law and order and a collapse  
of the existing political system.

New safeguards designed to  
reduce the ill-effects of tech-  
nological change, and to broaden  
public participation in  
decision-making were tech-  
nological choice is involved, were  
announced at the conference.

Mr George McRobie, chair-  
man of the Intermediate Tech-  
nology Development Group,  
said that the group was  
expanding its programme on  
appropriate technology for the  
United Kingdom. (Until  
recently most of the group's  
work has been concerned with  
technology appropriate for  
third-world countries.)

This would involve the crea-  
tion of a group which would  
strive to give advance notice of  
significant areas of future  
technological change where  
public participation was desir-  
able, and a second group con-  
cerned with recommendations  
on particular technology  
choices.

Kenneth Owen

### o warns rivals it step up price war d stores

MacLaurin, Tesco's  
director, said last  
night that he was  
certainly not in-  
creasing his future  
decide to cut them

Stores yesterday  
supermarket rivals  
step up the price  
war on the beginning  
of the Christmas  
season.

MacLaurin, Tesco's  
director, said last  
night that he was  
certainly not in-  
creasing his future  
decide to cut them

MacLaurin said: "We  
d to stop there and  
solidate. We see no  
reason to increase our  
prices. The group has  
already opened eight new big  
stores this year and intends  
to open eight more by Christ-  
mas."

He said that the price war  
had clearly established two  
divisions in retailing. "Our-  
selves, Sainsbury and Asda are  
in the first division and very  
body else is in the second."

Mr MacLaurin added that he  
did not believe any other group  
had the strength on ability to  
get back at us in this war."

Courtaulds profit cut: Slimmer  
margins on exports because of  
the weakness of the dollar  
have cut into first-half profits  
of Courtaulds. This has offset  
a stronger performance at home  
where the upturn in consumer  
spending has meant a stronger  
trading period for the group's  
garment production.

Pre-tax profits in the six  
months to the end of September  
slipped from £27.9m to £27.4m.  
Courtaulds is looking for an  
improvement in the second half  
compared with the depressed  
outturn last year when the  
group was hit by stock losses  
and a strike. The shares were  
encouraged by the results and  
rose 3p to 115p.

Financial Editor, page 25

### Burmah gets stake in four N Sea blocks

By Nicholas Hirst

Burmah Oil has been given  
shares in four North Sea ex-  
ploration blocks previously  
held on a sole licence by the  
British National Oil Corpora-  
tion. Agreement for Burmah's  
involvement in the blocks  
follows arrangements made  
with the Government after  
the rescue of Burmah four  
years ago.

Burmah receives a 12.16 per  
cent interest in blocks 31/21,  
31/26 and 31/27 and block  
15/6.

BNOC said the agreement  
obligations which it had  
assumed as part of the  
arrangements by which the  
corporation acquired Burmah's  
interest in the Thistle field.

Burmah sold a 21 per cent  
stake in the Ninian field to  
BNOC to about £90m in  
March 1976.

Later that year the oil  
corporation acquired 65 per  
cent of Burmah's interest in the  
Thistle field and a 95 per cent  
interest in its other United  
Kingdom Continental Shelf  
assets through the acquisition  
of 95 per cent of the share  
capital of the holding company.

BNOC retained an option,  
which was later exercised, to  
buy the remaining 5 per cent  
of shares.

At the same time, it was  
announced by the Government  
that BNOC would establish a  
joint company with Burmah to  
acquire no winter interest in off-  
shore licences.

Burmah's interest of 12.16  
per cent in the four blocks, of  
which only 15/6 is a full block,  
is equivalent to 15 per cent in  
each of two blocks. This was  
the basis of the original agree-  
ment in principle.

### Avon cosmetics group in bid for Tiffany

Washington, Nov 22—Wall  
Street was caught completely  
by surprise by a bid by Avon  
Products Incorporated, the  
door-to-door seller of cosmetics,  
for Tiffany, one of the top  
jewellers in the United States.  
Tiffany shares, which were  
trading on Tuesday at around  
\$20, soared to a range of \$34 to  
\$38 in a generally thin  
market, while there was no  
trading in Avon.

Under the terms of the  
agreed offer the deal will in-  
volve a two-for-one exchange of  
shares. Avon, which has been  
yesterday traded at just over  
\$53, for each of the approxi-  
mately 2.3 million Tiffany  
shares. This places an approxi-  
mate value on Tiffany of about  
\$104m.

Tiffany will remain an inde-  
pendent company, still doing  
business out of its prestige shop  
on Fifth Avenue in New York  
and from its other high class  
locations around and country.  
Avon says that it has no plans  
to start using the Tiffany name  
for its own products. In recent  
years Avon has moved most  
successfully into the costume  
jewellery business with sales in  
this sector of around \$250m  
last year.

### Criticism of Treasury over EMS debate

By Caroline Atkinson

The Treasury was strongly  
criticized yesterday for its  
failure to provide written evi-  
dence to the House of Commons  
Expenditure Committee on the  
pros and cons of the proposed  
European Monetary System.

It was blamed by the com-  
mittee, which published its re-  
port on EMS yesterday, for the  
narrow debate on the EMS  
which has taken place in  
Britain.

Although the committee does  
not reach any conclusions on  
whether Britain should join the  
fixed exchange rate system, it  
points out that of those people  
who gave evidence "none of  
our economists or the clearing  
banks would at present advise  
immediate entry."

Forecasts made by Mr Terry  
Ward, the committee's special  
adviser, of the effects of entry  
on British growth and employ-  
ment are published with the  
committee's report.

As with a secret Treasury  
paper leaked to Mr  
Sedgemore, a Labour MP on  
the committee, details of which  
were published in The Times  
on November 4, the forecasts  
show that growth, output and  
employment would all be lower  
in the early 1980s if Britain  
joined the EMS than if it did  
not.

Mr Sedgemore was sacked  
from his job as Parliamentary  
Private Secretary to Mr Tony  
Wedderburn, the Secretary  
of State for energy, after he  
revealed details of the Treasury  
paper during the Chancellor's  
evidence to the House of  
Commons committee.

He said that the Treasury  
had forecast a loss of up to 94  
per cent of output by 1982, and  
a rise of up to 2.7 per cent in  
unemployment.

Mr Ward forecasts that up to  
1,075,000 jobs could be lost and  
gdp could be 8.4 per cent lower  
by 1981 if Britain joins the  
scheme.

This would happen on the  
Cambridge model of the econ-  
omy if average earnings grow  
by 15 per cent a year between  
now and 1980.

If the exchange rate were  
adjusted annually to take  
account of differing rates of in-  
flation, gdp would be 2.2 per  
cent lower than otherwise by  
1981 and there would be 300,000  
fewer jobs. The figures are  
lower if average earnings are  
assumed to grow more slowly.

Mr Michael English, chairman  
of the Expenditure Sub-  
committee, asked the Treasury  
to run its model using assump-  
tions agreed by the various  
economists advising the com-  
mittee. This was refused.

A wide range of evidence  
submitted to the committee has  
been published with the report,  
although printing problems  
have meant that not all the sub-  
missions have yet been printed.

As the committee points out,  
there is more support for the  
EMS among politicians than



Mr Callaghan welcomes Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Prime Minister, to No 10 Downing Street yesterday at the start of a two-day visit to discuss the European Monetary System.

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there is more support for the  
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among economists.  
At a press conference yester-  
day some members of the Com-  
mons committee criticized the  
British Government and press  
for concentrating on the tech-  
nical issues of the EMS and  
ignoring its wider political  
significance.

In Brussels, the committee  
was told that debate in other  
EEC countries had been wider,  
and more on the political sig-  
nificance for Europe, than debate  
in Britain.

The Trades Union Congress  
supported the idea of fixed ex-  
change rates in its evidence but  
expressed concern at the dan-  
ger that the EMS would inhibit  
the growth of some of its  
members.

### Harrisons bid for rest of Sabah Timber

Harrisons & Crossfield, the  
planning, trading and man-  
ufacturing group, is bidding for  
the 40.3 per cent of Sabah Tim-  
ber it does not already control.  
The offer means one H&C share  
would be exchanged for 500p for  
every seven Sabah shares. The  
offer is worth 341p each or 241p  
above the share price.

Under the scheme, Sabah  
shares not held beneficially by  
H&C will be cancelled and H&C  
ordinary shares issued to  
holders of scheme shares. The  
new shares will rank equally  
with other H&C shares except  
that they will not be entitled  
to the 6.5p interim dividend.

Holders of scheme shares  
will, however, receive the 0.55p  
a share interim payable on  
Sabah Timber shares. The move  
may be seen as part of H&C's  
continuing rationalization of its  
extensive interests and cross-  
holdings.

Sabah has estates in Sabah  
and Malaysia, as well as in  
United Kingdom. It is a United  
Kingdom company, which in  
1977 made pre-tax profits of  
£2.7m and earnings per share of  
8.43p.

### Japan sticks to imports target

Tokyo, Nov 22—The Japanese  
Government said today it  
would continue efforts to im-  
plement its emergency import  
programmes worth \$4,000m  
(\$2,100m) by the end of fiscal  
1978 next March. Economic  
Planning Agency officials said  
after a meeting of vice-ministers  
that goods totalling \$2,180m  
had been imported or were  
already certain to be bought.  
The vice-ministers agreed to  
ensure that the rest of the  
emergency imports would be  
achieved by the end of March,  
so that Japan would be able  
to hold down its current  
account payments surplus of  
\$13,100m for the current fiscal  
year.

### How the markets moved

Rises

Burton Corp 8p to 180p  
Bally Malt 1st 3p to 36p  
D. Malt 1st A 13p to 36p  
F&A Cans 10p to 17p  
Hong K & Seng 10p to 25p  
No Age Malt 6p to 10p  
Mills & Allen 10p to 21p

Falls

Bremner 3p to 45p  
Churchbury Est 3p to 30p  
E. Rand Prop 6p to 27p  
Harrisons Malay 5p to 10p  
NEI 25p to 124p  
Nestlé Wright 3p to 12p  
Rand Malt Prop 3p to 9p

Gold rose 50.125 an ounce to close  
at \$200.625.  
GDR-S was 1.26933 on Monday,  
while SDR-E was 0.638879.  
Commodities: Reuters' index was  
at 1515.7 (previous 1510.5).  
Reports, pages 26, 27 and 28

### On other pages

Financial Editor  
Appointments vacant  
Business Statements  
Letters  
Financial news  
Bank Base Rates Table

25 Preliminary Announcements:  
33 Wade Pomeroy  
27 Interim Statements:  
24 Courtlands  
26 J. Polkes Hefo  
28 Hambros Bank

The Times index: 212.86 +1.53  
The FT index: 478.6 +4.6

### THE POUND

|                 | Bank<br>buyers | Bank<br>sellers |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Australia \$    | 1.76           | 1.69            |
| Austria Sch     | 29.00          | 27.00           |
| Belgium Fr      | 63.00          | 59.50           |
| Canada \$       | 2.25           | 2.25            |
| Denmark Kr      | 10.84          | 10.34           |
| Finland Mk      | 8.20           | 7.80            |
| France Fr       | 8.90           | 8.50            |
| Germany Dm      | 2.32           | 2.28            |
| Greece Dr       | 85.00          | 80.00           |
| Hong Kong \$    | 9.60           | 9.15            |
| Italy Lr        | 1720.00        | 1635.00         |
| Japan Yen       | 402.00         | 377.00          |
| Netherlands Gld | 4.26           | 4.03            |
| Norway Kr       | 10.37          | 9.92            |
| Portugal Esc    | 26.50          | 26.50           |
| S Africa Rd     | 1.78           | 1.64            |
| Spain Ptas      | 166.00         | 139.00          |
| Sweden Kr       | 8.92           | 8.52            |
| Switzerland Fr  | 3.54           | 3.32            |
| US \$           | 1.99           | 1.93            |
| Yugoslavia Dnr  | 43.00          | 40.50           |

Rates for small denominations: Bank  
notes and all supplied yesterday by  
Barclays Bank International Ltd.  
Different rates apply to travellers  
cheques and other foreign currency  
instruments.

### SAFEGUARD INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Helping small companies  
to raise capital.

Extracts from the statement by Mr John Keeling,  
Chairman.

At the start of our year the F.T. Actuaries All-Share  
Index stood at 224.45. At the end it stood at 228.35—  
a rise of just 1.7 per cent. The theoretical break-up value  
of our company, after deducting the Debenture Stock at  
par, was £1,689,000 equivalent to 106.27p per share,  
compared with 93.73p last year, representing a rise of  
13.4 per cent.

The increased interest in providing finance for small  
businesses has continued during the year.

It remains the case, however, that this vital sector of  
our economy is frequently over-taxed or under-financed.  
Very often this is because the businessman does not  
know who to turn to for help or advice. Safeguard has  
been active in this specialist field for twenty-five years  
and has always aimed to provide advice as well as finance  
whilst not insisting on control. The small businessman  
or entrepreneur is by nature a free spirit and should be  
encouraged rather than fettered.

|                             | Year to<br>30th September<br>1978 | Year to<br>30th September<br>1977 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Net revenue after taxation  | 457,625                           | 416,963                           |
| Dividends:                  |                                   |                                   |
| Interim paid (1p) 110,000   |                                   | (1p) 110,000                      |
| Final proposed (3p) 330,000 | 440,000                           | (2p) 286,000                      |
| Revenue retained            | 177,625                           | 206,963                           |
| Earnings per share          | 4.16p                             | 3.79p                             |
| Net assets                  | £1,689,000                        | £1,031,078                        |
| Net asset value per share   | 106.3p                            | 93.7p                             |

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts are available from  
Safeguard Industrial Investments Limited, 57 Foston Place,  
London SW1 2JL. Telephone: 235 9693.

### SAFEGUARD

### Hepworth & Son, Limited

#### GROUP RESULTS

| rs to 31st August (amount in thousands)                        |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|
|  | 1978           | 1977           |
| up turnover (excl. V.A.T.)                                     | <b>£42,618</b> | <b>£34,489</b> |
| fit before tax   | <b>5,225</b>   | <b>3,669</b>   |
| fit after tax and minority<br>rests                            | <b>2,633</b>   | <b>2,579</b>   |
| rdinary items (net)  | <b>430</b>     | <b>1,246</b>   |
| fit after tax, minority interests<br>extraordinary items (net) | <b>3,063</b>   | <b>3,825</b>   |
| arnings per ordinary 10p share<br>cluding extraordinary items) | <b>6.33p</b>   | <b>6.25p</b>   |



## Humber Bridge contractor favours court test of payments hold-up

By John Huxley  
British Bridge Builders, contractor for the Humber Bridge, is considering an approach to the High Court to test the legality of the consultant engineer's repeated refusal to authorize full progress payments on the £68m contract.

The BBB consortium would seek the consent of the client, the Humber Bridge Board to test the move, which it believes offers a quick method of settling what has become a long-running dispute.

Last month there were fears that all work on the bridge, now expected to be three years late in completion, would be halted. BBB complained of cash-flow problems created primarily by the board's withholding of payments totalling £960,000, because of alleged poor performance on site.

Subsequently the engineers, Freeman, Fox & Parnell, authorized an additional payment, believed to be about £120,000, after re-examining performance and criteria. A meeting called by Mr William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, also helped to clear the air.

Yesterday, however, it was confirmed that Freeman, Fox & Parnell had again refused to authorize full expenditure claimed by BBB during October. This will have disappointed the consortium, which was pleased by performance during the month when the weather was favourable.

Earlier this year BBB sought an injunction which would have had the effect of restraining Freeman, Fox & Parnell from certifying payments. After a High Court hearing the matter was referred to arbitration. BBB is now concerned that this will take too long.

"If we could get agreement to test legality of the deduction of the matter could be settled quickly," a spokesman for the consortium said. It is understood that the bridge board would accept such a course.

Meanwhile, work on the bridge has again been slowed by poor weather. Earlier this month a whole week was lost on the crucial cable-spinning operation for only the second time since work began.

More government aid planned for tourism in England and Wales

By Derek Harris  
More government aid for tourism is planned for England and Wales, announced today, around £17m next year. Aid for the industry, until now restricted to development areas and special development areas, is also to be made available in the intermediate development areas.

This will bring practically the whole of Scotland and Wales into the aid scheme, although the Scottish Office expects next year to stay within its current budget.

Subject to parliamentary approval, Mr John Smith, Secretary of State for Trade,

## More Government aid planned for tourism in England and Wales

will make an additional £15m available for distribution by the English Tourist Board next year.

This should mean about £4m will be available next year and could mean help for approved schemes in areas such as Lancashire and Cheshire, parts of the East Midlands like the Derbyshire Peak District, more of Yorkshire and Humberside, the Oswestry area, parts of Devon and the North Wales coast, and south-east Wales.

The Welsh Office expects to make another £200,000 available next year in addition to their current £1.25m level of grants.

In brief

Shell raises polystyrene by 14 pc

Shell Chemicals UK has announced a 14 per cent increase in the price of its expandable polystyrene marketed under the trade name Styrocell.

In a statement, the company yesterday said that the rise which will take effect from December 4 was the first since 1976. The move follows a general escalation in costs. Existing prices are between £400 and £500 a tonne.

The United Kingdom market is expected to be around 9,000 tonnes a year and Shell Chemicals is a leading supplier besides Monsanto and the German groups, BASF and Hoechst.

Other companies are expected to lift prices in line with the Shell move.

## Shell raises polystyrene by 14 pc

James Schlesinger: China trade prospects.

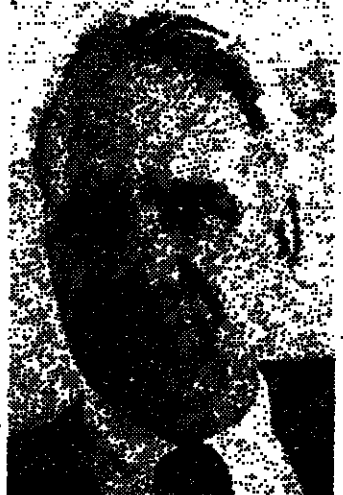
James Schlesinger, the United States Energy Secretary, recently returned from a trip to China and it is believed here that the Chinese voiced strong interest in purchasing American drilling and petroleum technology in return, possibly, for exporting crude oil to this country.

It is thought by informed sources here that little may come of these United States-Chinese economic and diplomatic relations between the two countries have been fully normalized, but the announcement by Coastal States Gas Corporation may indicate that this view is incorrect.

The company said it had agreed to purchase 3.6 million barrels of high quality crude oil from China for use on the West Coast of the United States. This is seen as just an initial agreement and if the oil proves to be of the low-sulphur, light-weight quality promised and deliveries go well, starting early next year, then far larger deals may well be concluded.

A number of other United States oil companies are known to be holding discussions with the Chinese at the moment, including Exxon and Gulf, but it is doubtful that these companies will at this time seek to purchase Chinese crude oil.

The discussion is believed to be primarily centre on participation by these companies in offshore Chinese crude oil exploration and development.



James Schlesinger: China trade prospects.

## Subsidies hidden in pension funds

From Mr F. P. Taylor  
Sir, Your correspondent Mr Martin Paterson (November 10) does well to note one of the most widespread abuses of the law in this country today.

If anyone who has ever earned more than a paltry £5,000 a year leaves his job, he is forced to accept a deferred pension to be paid from normal retiring age. This pension is calculated by multiplying years of service by a percentage of the salary at the time of leaving. It is, therefore, independent both of age and length of time between leaving and retirement. The deferred pension, therefore, will be exactly the same whether one is 35 or 64 at the time of leaving.

The employee will therefore derive no benefit whatsoever from the interest obtainable on his contributions to the pension scheme after he changes his job. All this interest will revert to the firm. In those cases where an employee changes his job before the age of 57 the interest on his contributions will exceed the amount he has contributed.

This interest contributes a hidden subsidy to the pension scheme of the firm he has left and makes a substantial windfall to those firms who have a high staff turnover, to the detriment of those who leave.

Yours faithfully,  
F. P. TAYLOR  
Stoneycliffe House,  
7 Kingsway,  
Frodoham,  
Cheshire,  
WA6 6RU,  
November 10.

## Japan industry output

Japan's September industrial production index was revised upwards to 124.4 (base 1975). The revised index rose 1.2 per cent from 122.9 in August, when it rose 1.2 per cent from July. The index stood at 115.9 in September last year.

"THE TIMES" VENEER  
Sets £2.75m (£2.40m) for six months to June 30. Pre-tax profit £109,000 (£55,000). Interest is 0.32p (0.32).

TDC DEVELOPMENTS  
TDC has formed company to provide commercial and managerial advice and support as well as finance to businesses.

## Accountants blamed for failure to convey profits fall

then steeply to 6.5 per cent in the years up to the oil crisis, and to as little as 2 per cent for the four years since then."

Mr Chandler told the London Society of Chartered Accountants that this figure should give anxiety to management unions and workers alike.

But the decline in profit and its consequence was neither widely known nor understood. "Nor, I think, is it believed by most people on the shop floor."

Accountancy which gives accountants conventions was no substitute for intelligibility. "The genuine difficulty of arriving at a 'real' profit or measurement of economic performance in an age of inflation is insufficient excuse for allowing the technical accuracy of older methods to lead to popular misunderstanding."

Accountants were urged to ensure that results were relevant and widely intelligible as well as objective.

A common understanding was essential if problems were to be tackled effectively.

"The ability to indulge in fantasies about economic realities lies in direct ratio to the wealth of a society (which can allow it to indulge them) or to its general ignorance of these realities (which leaves it unaware that it cannot)."

Mr Geoffrey Chandler.

## Construction equipment trade problems

A strong pound and increased competition will continue to pose problems for Britain's construction equipment manufacturers, whose share of world trade has fallen by a half to about 11 per cent over the past 15 years, according to a report published yesterday.

Inter Company Comparisons says that in the short term some markets like the Middle East are in danger of becoming saturated with equipment for which operators cannot be found. However, it believes that in the medium term the outlook is more encouraging.

The report analyses the financial performance of 60 of the leading companies over a three-year period ending in October of last year. During this period profit margins dropped by 3.4 per cent after a first-year rise of 18.9 per cent.

The return on capital improved from 17.5 per cent to 20.7 per cent, while sales increased by 57 per cent over the whole period.

The dominance of American companies, which both operate through subsidiaries in Britain and supply many manufacturers with engines, is acknowledged, but the report says that one British company, J. C. Bamford, has succeeded in modelling itself on the largest of the Americans, Caterpillar.

"Construction Equipment Manufacturers, ICC Business Ratios, 81 City Road, London EC1Y 1BD; £44.

Although we have been heartened by the high level of entrants from girls having taken up careers in engineering, there has emerged an incredible lack of encouragement and understanding of what industry is all about by parents and teachers.

If we are to accept the Duke of Kent's challenge, and we must if we are to survive at a time when technology is changing so rapidly, then not only Government but industry and society as a whole need more fully to recognize and appreciate the roles to be played by the three crucial elements of engineering—Chartered Engineers, Technician Engineers and Technicians—in the creation of wealth and provision of services for this country.

Yours faithfully,  
A. C. GINGELL,  
Secretary,  
The Institution of Electrical and Electronics Technicians Engineers,  
2 Savoy Hill,  
London WC2R 0BS,  
November 7.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Why 50pc devaluation of money means 100pc increase in values

From Mr Bruce M. Adkins  
Sir, The recent letter (November 10) from the Honorary Secretary of the Economic Research Council, Mr Edward Holloway, contains an invaluable reminder that "to give a worker £100 when there is only £50 worth of goods to buy with it merely reduces the purchasing power of the £100 to £50". This beautifully simple explanation of the nature of inflation prompts me, a simple engineer, to offer the following observations and ask a concluding question.

We are from time to time reminded that a very small percentage of the United Kingdom population (the figure is currently around 5 per cent) owns approximately half the country's "private" wealth, said to comprise mainly land, shareholdings, and movable valuables... but not money as such. A natural consequence is that the less-endowed majority wish to see the imbalance redressed and among the actions which seem to offer promise of this are increased wages and salaries for the less wealthy, coupled with increased taxes on the better-off.

I wish to suggest that both these actions are misguided and in fact are having precisely the opposite effect to that intended. Why? Because they help maintain a high rate of inflation, in other words a constant reduction in the value of money as such, inevitably accompanied by a constant increase in the money value of "real things".

As noted above, the only important widespread inflation-proof asset is in home ownership, but even here a substantial portion is in reality rented (through mortgages) at rates which are by no means fully protected from the effects of inflation, though it is true that ultimate capital values are largely safeguarded. However, on the assumption that, say, half the 50 million or so British population are property-owners with, on average, one fifth of an

acre each, this gives a "per lot ownership" of only 1 million acres out of a total (England, Scotland and Wales) of some 56 million acres—only about 9 per cent.

Moreover, increasing average holding to half an acre, even if this could be achieved (for giving one fifth an acre to every man, woman and child in the land) would only increase the 9 per cent to about 20 per cent, still leaving some 80 per cent in the hands of the very few, or of the state. And all this land, even if "real" value remains unchanged, is constantly increasing in monetary value in step with inflation, against which even savage taxes (and it is savage) can have only limited effect.

I hope through the above have shown that, simply by giving people more and more money tokens, under whatever pretext, and thereby maintaining an inflation-based economy, real wealth is not being "distributed" but further concentrated. Now for my concluding question.

If more money in circulation leads to more inflation and makes the very rich get richer, should not a drastic increase in money supply have the opposite effect? If not, I would like to be explained why not. Yours faithfully,

BRUCE M. ADKINS,  
31 Avenue du Panorama,  
91190 Givry-sur-Yonne,  
France.  
November 14.

## Earliest mining site trees

From Mr W. O. Binns and Mr D. F. Fourie  
Sir, Your correspondents Messrs Burdett (November 3), Davies (October 16), Dawkins (October 31) and Professor Thirgood (November 7) have all omitted one important point. The earliest tree-planting on mining sites (and indeed on ironstone and gravel workings) was on land left as "hill-sides", not compacted during restoration, and only slightly modified, if at all, thereafter. (Incidentally, we do not agree with Professor Thirgood that deep-mined is more hostile than open-cast spoil tips, the latter being often more important than the materials.)

Nowadays the box scraper and bulldozer lay down successive 25cm layers of material, each compressed as the next is superimposed, so that the primary factor in making the hillside is soil compaction, as Mr Ashley pointed out in his letter of October 25. If this compaction is relieved, then trees can root and grow, often very well indeed.

As modern methods and machinery are the villains so can they be the means of salvation: subsoiling (tining, ripping) to 70cm with a tracked vehicle has already transformed a peculiarly difficult site in the Forest of Dean, where nearly all the trees planted before such treatment had died. On other sites nearly complete loosening of the whole soil mass has been achieved with a single pass of a winged three-tine assembly (which is a scaled-up version of the tool developed by Mr G. Spoor at Shire).

We have found compaction on heavy clay, gravelly clay loam, and loamy sand—compaction such that to try and plant a tree is a waste-shattering experience. The way forward on land restored after mining or mineral extraction is to assess those factors which will limit plant growth, to avoid if possible increasing such limitations during restoration and to develop techniques for removing them.

The sand and gravel industry through this association, a research arrangement of the Department of the Environment in which the Minister of Agriculture plays a prominent part, the object of which is to prove (or disprove) that cultural land from which sand and gravel has been extra can be restored to the condition it had, or near to, before operations began.

The Restoration Guarantee Fund, existence on which claims have been made if a member defers his restoration plan obligations.

CHARLES REY,  
Chief Executive,  
Sand and Gravel Association Limited,  
48 Park Street,  
London W1Y 4HE.

## Vice-presidential disagreement

From Mr P. L. Carter  
Sir, I was interested to see the statement by the Resident Vice-President of the American Express Company, Card Division (November 13) that "American Express regards its relationship with each card member as absolutely confidential".

This conflicts with an AFP report from Washington, carried by Le Monde some time ago, on the evidence given by a Mr James Stetson, also a president of the company, to a committee of inquiry on the protection of privacy. This report reads, in translation: "The American Express Company, whose credit card is one of the most widely used in the world, replies without forming its clients to questions addressed to it by the American and foreign administrations about their solvency."

One wonders which president is right.

Yours faithfully,  
P. L. CARTER,  
Holgate,  
Bakelme,  
Sussex RH17 6LL,  
November 14.

## Good year indicated for US steel industry

From Our United States Economic Correspondent  
Washington, Nov 22  
America's steel industry is likely to have another fairly good year in 1979, although this will depend greatly on the level of steel imports, despite the growing number of general forecasts by economists that the United States will move into a recession, according to the Arco Steel Corporation.

Mr Paul Harmon, Arco's chief economist, states that overall 1978 steel sales have been in line with expectations, although imports continued to obtain a large slice of the market.

He said that early this year the industry expected domestic shipments to total 99.3m tons with a decline in imports, but in fact imports rose by roughly one million tons above the 1977 level at 19.3m tons and this left domestic shipments at an estimated 97.6m tons.

In the year ahead Mr Harmon expects that there will be only a small decline in imports, but a small increase in domestic steel consumption. He is forecasting United States domestic shipments of 96m tons, but he gives warning that "the key to this forecast is lower imports".

Mr Harmon believes that the decline of the dollar and the uncertainty about future foreign price trends for nickel States buyers will possibly result in a fall in imports to 16.3 million tons in 1979.

His optimism in the face of the prospect of at least a significant decline in economic activity in the United States in the year ahead is based on a detailed analysis of the needs of the steel industry's chief customers.

He believes that American car production will fall by 7.4 per cent next year to 8.3 million units and that new housing starts in 1979 will fall some 12 per cent below the 1978 level at about 1.7 million units. But he forecasts a 1.6 per cent rise in non-residential construction.

## Steel anti-crisis plan extended for further year

From Peter Norman  
Brussels, Nov 22  
EEC industry ministers agreed last night that the anti-crisis plan for the European steel industry devised by Viscount Etienne Davignon, the industry commissioner, should be extended for another year.

In the course of a debate that lasted until 3 am, they also agreed that the Community should receive the go-ahead to negotiate new voluntary export agreements with the Community's steel suppliers abroad.

While it is accepted that the 1979 anti-crisis plan will place a greater emphasis on restructuring the industry, most of the details have been left for the ministerial meeting on December 19.

## First US group deal to buy oil from China

From Frank Vogl  
United States Economics Correspondent  
Washington, Nov 22—The Coastal States Gas Corporation of Texas has become the first American company to sign an agreement to import oil from the People's Republic of China.

The deal has been concluded at a time when a wide array of long-term energy ventures are under discussion between the Chinese and United States Governments.

Dr James Schlesinger, the United States Energy Secretary, recently returned from a trip to China and it is believed here that the Chinese voiced strong interest in purchasing American drilling and petroleum technology in return, possibly, for exporting crude oil to this country.

It is thought by informed sources here that little may come of these United States-Chinese economic and diplomatic relations between the two countries have been fully normalized, but the announcement by Coastal States Gas Corporation may indicate that this view is incorrect.

The company said it had agreed to purchase 3.6 million barrels of high quality crude oil from China for use on the West Coast of the United States. This is seen as just an initial agreement and if the oil proves to be of the low-sulphur, light-weight quality promised and deliveries go well, starting early next year, then far larger deals may well be concluded.

A number of other United States oil companies are known to be holding discussions with the Chinese at the moment, including Exxon and Gulf, but it is doubtful that these companies will at this time seek to purchase Chinese crude oil.

The discussion is believed to be primarily centre on participation by these companies in offshore Chinese crude oil exploration and development.

## TI Creda and Electrolux in work swap to cut imports

Two of Britain's domestic appliance manufacturers, TI Creda and Electrolux, are to make appliances for each other in a move which breaks new ground in the attempt to reduce imports.

It was described as a major step forward in import substitution by Mr John Redman, Electrolux managing director, when he announced the agreement yesterday at a meeting of the domestic appliances sector working party of the National Economic Development Office.

TI Creda is to make an automatic washing machine for Electrolux to replace one being imported from Italy. In return Electrolux will manufacture a range of fridge-freezers and freezers for TI Creda.

There have been increasing anxieties in the domestic appliance industry about the

## Brent renovation plan

Nationwide Building Society and the London Borough of Brent have jointly developed a scheme whereby Nationwide will supply £500,000 of mortgage finance to help home buyers in the borough's Housing Action Areas—areas where housing conditions and social conditions warrant special attention to improve the

## EEC visit to Clyde

A delegation of 25 representatives of a study group of the transport section of the EEC's Economic Committee, visited shipyards on the Clyde yesterday as part of their investigation into European shipping and shipbuilding industries.

Their tour included a visit to the recently modernized yard of Govan Shipbuilders.

## Accountants blamed for failure to convey profits fall

A plea for more intelligible company reports was made by Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director general of the National Economic Development Office, yesterday.

He told an audience of accountants that they had to take responsibility for the failure on the part of both sides of industry to recognize the steep fall in corporate profit, and thus the decline in Britain's ability to employ, invest and grow.

The pre-tax real rate of return in manufacturing fell slightly from 10.9 per cent to 9 per cent between the first and second half of the 1960s, and

then steeply to 6.5 per cent in the years up to the oil crisis, and to as little as 2 per cent for the four years since then."

Mr Chandler told the London Society of Chartered Accountants that this figure should give anxiety to management unions and workers alike.

But the decline in profit and its consequence was neither widely known nor understood. "Nor, I think, is it believed by most people on the shop floor."

Accountancy which gives accountants conventions was no substitute for intelligibility. "The genuine difficulty of arriving at a 'real' profit or measurement of economic performance in an age of inflation is insufficient excuse for allowing the technical accuracy of older methods to lead to popular misunderstanding."

Accountants were urged to ensure that results were relevant and widely intelligible as well as objective.

A common understanding was essential if problems were to be tackled effectively.

"The ability to indulge in fantasies about economic realities lies in direct ratio to the wealth of a society (which can allow it to indulge them) or to its general ignorance of these realities (which leaves it unaware that it cannot)."

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## Hambros Limited Interim Statement

### Results for the Half-year

The operating profit earned from banking was lower than in the first half of last year. As has been announced, agreement in principle has been reached with the Norwegian Guarantee Institute on the major outstanding matters referred to in last year's Annual Report. Hambros Life Assurance has increased its interim dividend by 10% and has indicated that new business is continuing substantially ahead of the corresponding months of 1977. Other trading and associated company interests of the Group are also ahead of last year, but overall, the Group's earnings are below those of the comparable period of last year.

### Dividends

Interim dividends on the £10 shares (£3.50 paid) and the 25p shares (fully paid) will be paid at rates approximately 10% above those of last year, and on the £1 'A' shares at the same rate as last year. Payment will be made on 2nd January, 1979 to all shareholders on the register at the close of business on 24th November, 1978. The rates of dividend are:—

On the £10 shares, £2.50 paid, 42p per share (37.625p)

On the 25p shares, fully paid, 4.2p per share (3.7625p)

On the £1 'A' shares, 2.1p per share (2.1p)



Hambros Limited, 41 Bishopsgate, London. EC2P 3AA.

## WADE

Results for the year ended 31st July, 1978

- \* Profit before tax £1,033,929 on sales of £8,622,567.
- \* Dividend covered 5.85 times by earnings.
- \* Returned on capital employed 27.46%.
- \* After this record year the current year has started well as regards orders, sales and profitability. Demand remains high with each factory showing an improved performance.

WADE POTTERIES LIMITED - STOKE-ON-TRENT



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Tesco capitalizes on its price war gains

er a year since Tesco sparked 1 Street price war by cutting stamps and launching "Operation" — and it has been vindicated. Tesco's profits are up by more than £13.8m reflecting a similar £530m — figures which compare a 25 per cent profit increase Sainsbury earlier this month. gain—43 per cent on pre-parison and 23 per cent after —represents underlying volume ore than a fifth and seems to ar year's static profits were a pay for the huge territorial ained. ning its net margin at 2.6 per as established a new level for food prices, and taken its up to close on 13 per cent—h 8 per cent before the price— an uneasy truce in the High led to suggestions that Tesco e content to ease its margins reap greater returns from its at share. Having proved it can this policy, however, Tesco is relax now. The apparent Tesco, Sainsbury and Asda, between them they have most ion on the run and they are let up now. ly, Tesco's results coincided estment analysts' meeting at bury was exuding confidence acts. Its view coincides with o management—that none of h Street multiples has the sort ture from which to launch a unter-offensive on prices. ales growth likely to continue th in the second-half and the the margin moving up to per-



ter, chairman of Tesco.

cent on special factors, Tesco's d rise over a third to over £38m year. This points to a p/e ratio the shares at 53.3p, which, looks undemanding given the compound profits growth of r a fifth through to the early while a prospective yield of per cent—assuming only a 10-crease—represents a 4-point ver Sainsbury and could point adjustment in Tesco's favour.

### ing for ire

all profits only underline how ess it is going to be to reshape of Courtaulds' size to meet the ressure of the world textile en it is getting precious little e market place.

agement at the group has been healthy attitude to the problems marketing and production, ncluding the ability to bite the losures where necessary. As it ng upturn in United Kingdom ending (some 6 per cent in second quarter) has been offset o change in fabrics for the e fibres has been just as dull. ef culprit in the first half slip m to £27.4m has been exports g costs and a weakening dollar and coupled with

reduced overseas earnings currency factors have cut profits by about £10m.

For the second half Courtaulds is anticipating the usual seasonal pattern of a stronger close to the year to reassert itself especially with Europe now picking up to reinforce the upturn at home. At the same time the absence of last year's strikes and stock losses will reinforce the improvement. And though much depends on extraneous factors like sterling, the working of the multi-fibre agreement and the success of the Davignon proposals to cut back fibre production in the EEC, second half profits could be nearly twice as high as last year's, £25.8m for a full year, outcome of almost £75m and a prospective p/e ratio of 7 (on the low tax charge) at 115p.

Courtaulds has been a non-performer in profit terms for so long now that the yield of 11 per cent prospectively is the main prop for the shares. But on sales of £1,800m or more this year it will not take much of a return to the margins the group saw in the early 1970s to double profits next year. And it is that sort of return that shareholders should be expecting to justify any renewed faith in the company.

### Associated Newspapers

#### Classified profits

Associated Newspapers has again given little indication of the source of its profits, but it is clear that the motive force behind a 27 per cent profit rise to £9.2m in the first half has come from rapid growth in advertising revenues, particularly classified, combined with an effective drop of around 10 per cent in newspaper costs thanks to the declining dollar. Newspaper prices will be going up by 81 per cent in the New Year, and Associated warns that "current wage applications which are in excess of the Government guidelines" may adversely affect second half results. For the moment, though, it looks as if the strength in classified advertising will continue well into 1979, and Associated could make profits this year of £20m-£22m compared to £15.5m last year.

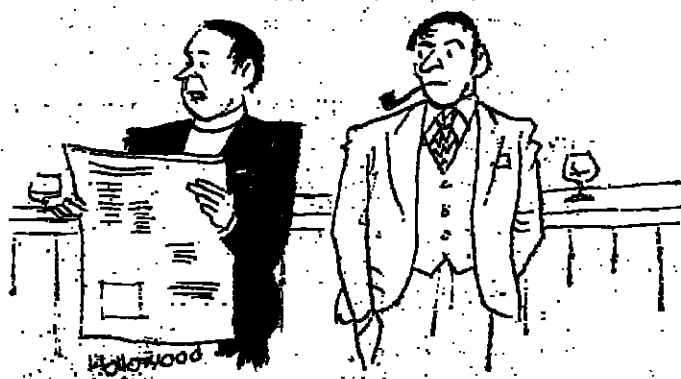
But the problem for the shares, 1p better at 185p yesterday, lies elsewhere. Associated continues to be less convincing at the net than the pre-tax profit level. Attributable earnings, which were down last year despite a handsome rise in pre-tax profits, emerge a more subdued 16 per cent higher at the half-year because of an abnormally high 58 per cent tax charge. This appears to reflect ungroupable losses at Esquire, calculated by outsiders to be running at perhaps £2.5m a year.

Longer-term it remains far from plain how Associated plans to utilize its considerable strength in property and cash—over £17m net in the last balance sheet and since boosted by the £4.4m sale of the highly profitable Pizzaland. How does Associated intend to come to terms with the persisting Evening News problem? What, if anything, is the significance of the reduction of the Daily Mail's General Trust holding from 50 to 49.9 per cent? Is everything to be changed, as some suspect, on a big bid in the United States? Associated's unwillingness to explain its strategy largely explains why, despite its growth, its shares still sell at only a little over 5 times fully taxed prospective earnings while a yield of 5.1 per cent is no help.

● The gilt market continued to edge its way ahead yesterday, but probably not by enough to ensure particularly lengthy application list for this morning's top stock offerings. Market sentiment may have been helped marginally by the Ford settlement, but there is no obvious reason for thinking that gilt prices are going to go very far for the moment.

Quite apart from continuing anxiety about United States interest rates, it is not going to be long before public sector pay demands will once again become a major news item. Against that kind of background, fund managers are probably going to be in no enormous hurry to feed funds into the market. That presumably will not be too disturbing for the authorities, who seem quite keen to maintain the present structure of interest rates for the moment—provided, that is, that they do not simultaneously tuck the institutions into a state of total pre-Christmas lethargy.

## Business Diary: ASTMS's bounty hunters



Labour and the TUC are at loggerheads. The Tories and the TUC are at loggerheads. But it doesn't follow that the Tories and Labour are at loggerheads.

day is to have a word with the crusty Minister of Industry, Carlo Donat Cattin. A 53-year-old Piedmontese, Donat Cattin (the name is pronounced in the French way) is giving up the post. It is judged to be incompatible with his new appointment as deputy secretary of the Christian Democrat Party alongside Benigno Zaccagnini. But he doesn't take kindly to the idea of laying down the power of dispensing incentives to industry. Shortly before leaving for Libya last week, Andreotti asked Romano Prodi if he would be the new minister. But Donat Cattin is saying that he will move only if the job is given to a member of his own faction of the Christian Democrats, which Prodi is not. Prodi is a 39-year-old Catholic economist from Bologna University.

Liverpool — was sufficiently taken by the imposing manner to put an advertisement in a national newspaper. "Two Victorian granite pillars, ex-well known North-west station" is the best Malcolm hopes will attract a buyer, possibly an Arab sheikh one hears so much about. The pillars, 20 feet high and of solid granite, are still standing. Within 12 hours of the advertisement appearing Oldham Bros had received three inquiries. Malcolm Oldham says that if the pillars are not sold they will probably go into storage. "Or we could put them outside the boss's house, I suppose."

How much does he want for them, delivery included? Oldham was not saying. Business Diary asked £200 would be acceptable but Oldham said not. When Lee Iacocca was president of the Ford Motor Company he was widely known as "the hatchet man", who promoted and demoted colleagues with ease and dispatch. He appears to be carrying that reputation with him to the Chrysler Corporation. A few weeks ago he was appointed chief operating officer on the understanding that he will take over in due course from the present Chrysler chairman, John Riccardo. Iacocca has immediately at- ready strengthened his hand by swiftly promoting a former Ford colleague, Harold Sperlich, 43, who moved to Chrysler in March last year. This old friend of Iacocca has moved from being one of many vice-presidents to the post of group vice-president in

overall charge of Chrysler's entire engineering and product development operations. To make way for the former Ford executive Frank Anderson was demoted from the job of group vice-president to that of vice-president of the stamping and assembly division. Another half a dozen key jobs in Chrysler's executive suite were also reshuffled. Car industry observers are not the least surprised at these moves. For them Iacocca is merely running true to form. They also point out that it was almost certain that Sperlich would be given a star position, as Iacocca had earlier this month called him "the most talented product planner in the industry".

K. A. Scarp, the boss of Cheltenham, has sent in this effusion in the style of E. J. Thribb. So, Fringe benefits Have overtaken salary As a bargaining point for the higher paid. This is because 2 per cent of an extra 5 per cent Less CGT and CIT Isn't worth as much Or a PHI policy Or a suit Or even a subscription to The Times. Can your Diary readers tell us, Mr Davies, What will happen when Fringe benefits aren't worth having either?

Ross Davies

### Economic notebook

#### To him that hath not...

When Lord Cockfield, the former Tory tax adviser, says that the redistribution of income and wealth in Britain has gone too far, as he did in a recent lecture, he is certain to touch a responsive chord in many a taxpayer.

"If", according to Lord Cockfield, "there was a time for swinging taxes on income and capital in order to reduce inequalities, that time has long since passed. The spread of education and equality of opportunities have achieved more than any amount of fiscal engineering to eliminate the basic economic causes of inequality."

Swinging tax rates remain today simply as a monument to a past era and the damage they do to the national well-being becomes greater the longer they stay.

Despite of these confident assertions, the facts about income distribution tell a somewhat different story. (There is not enough space here to deal with both income and wealth and, as the redistribution of wealth has not gone as far as the redistribution of income, we shall concentrate on the latter.)

The available evidence certainly does suggest that progressive taxation and government spending policies cause a high degree of redistribution. But this is not principally through different classes of worker—for example, from the public sector to blue-collar workers—but between workers and non-workers.

There are indeed, as Lord Cockfield notes, powerful forces which have the longer-term effect of depressing earned income. These are chiefly associated with the increasing sophistication of production in a modern economy which requires an ever more skillful workforce.

But the principal redistribution, however, is by government spending and taxation policies is from working households with high income and few dependants to those households with few or no workers and those with children.

The evidence about income redistribution also suggests two other conclusions. The first is that income redistribution does not arise from a single Government policy explicitly designed to produce a particular division of income. The second conclusion is that changes in the degree of redistribution are heavily influenced by demographic factors—for instance, the increase in health service and cash benefits necessitated by the increasing number of elderly people in Britain. The number of pensioners rose by 1 per cent between 1971 and 1976.

According to the latest figures published by the Central Statistical Office (*Economic Trends: February 1978*)—based on the Family Expenditure Survey—the 30 per cent of households in Britain who have the lowest income also have less than one full-time worker to each household, on average, or the largest number of dependants where a member of the household is a worker.

And it is only these "bottom" three tenths of households that are significant net beneficiaries of redistribution. That is to say, their final income, after taking account of all cash benefits, benefits in kind, subsidies and taxes, is greater than their original income, before allowance is made for such receipts and payments.

At the other end of the scale the "top" four tenths (households not aided for this purpose into bands of one tenth—called deciles—which correspond to the level of original income) are net losers from the present system, as might be expected.

Hard conclusions about whether the middle deciles gain or lose overall from the present combination of progressive taxation and public services, however, are rather difficult. This is because of inherent weaknesses in the way the statistics are compiled.

For example, only about 44 per cent of total government spending and 60 per cent of total government receipts are directly allocated to households. Spending in areas like defence and the maintenance of law and order is not allocated between households as it is thought to benefit everybody equally. In spite of this, it might be reasonably argued that it is the households with higher incomes that make the greatest demands on property protection services like the police and fire services.

A rough attempt is made by statisticians, however, to allocate government expenditure on education, health and welfare foods between types of household.

It is possible to be more specific about the distribution of tax burden between households, but even so there are government revenues, like those from corporation tax, that cannot be easily allocated.

Despite these inadequacies, a picture emerges about the degree of income redistribution that now occurs in Britain. It is possible to compare original incomes (before cash benefits like pensions and unemployment benefits and direct taxes) with disposable incomes (after cash benefits and direct taxes).

What is revealed is that the "top" decile, with an average household income in 1976 of £10,066 (or about two and a half times the average household income) received some 26.6 per cent of the total original income received by all households (see table). But even after the tax and social security contributions (taxes and benefits), this "top" decile still retains some 20.8 per cent of all final household incomes.

Conversely, the "bottom" decile accounts for only 0.1 per cent of all original household income and 4.5 per cent of all final income. It is clear that a large amount of income redistribution does indeed take place. But whether it has become excessive and unjustified, as Lord Cockfield believes, is altogether more questionable.

Melvyn Westlake

#### HOW INCOME IS REDISTRIBUTED IN THE U.K.

Effect of taxes and benefits on the distribution of household income: Percentages of original, disposable and final income received by decile groups.

| Decile group (households) | Original income |      |      | Disposable income |      |      | Final income |      |      |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|--------------|------|------|
|                           | 1974            | 1975 | 1976 | 1974              | 1975 | 1976 | 1974         | 1975 | 1976 |
| Top 10%                   | 28.7            | 28.6 | 28.3 | 22.7              | 22.4 | 24.7 | 22.4         | 22.4 | 20.8 |
| 11-20%                    | 17.0            | 17.1 | 17.4 | 15.2              | 15.5 | 15.2 | 15.1         | 15.4 | 14.4 |
| 21-30%                    | 14.0            | 14.1 | 14.3 | 12.8              | 13.0 | 12.7 | 12.7         | 13.0 | 12.2 |
| 31-40%                    | 11.9            | 12.0 | 12.1 | 11.5              | 11.3 | 11.2 | 11.0         | 11.2 | 11.1 |
| 41-50%                    | 10.1            | 10.1 | 10.3 | 9.5               | 9.7  | 9.7  | 9.4          | 9.7  | 9.8  |
| 51-60%                    | 8.8             | 8.8  | 8.8  | 8.5               | 8.5  | 8.4  | 8.1          | 8.4  | 8.8  |
| 61-70%                    | 7.8             | 7.8  | 7.8  | 7.1               | 7.1  | 7.1  | 6.8          | 7.1  | 7.4  |
| 71-80%                    | 5.9             | 5.9  | 6.3  | 5.5               | 5.6  | 5.9  | 5.5          | 5.7  | 6.4  |
| 81-90%                    | 1.0             | 1.0  | 1.1  | 4.1               | 4.0  | 4.1  | 4.0          | 4.3  | 4.9  |
| 91-100%                   | 0.3             | 0.3  | 0.1  | 2.6               | 2.6  | 3.5  | 2.7          | 2.9  | 4.5  |

Source: GSO data.

## How long can the EEC face both ways?



Viscount Etienne Davignon (above), commissioner for industry, and (below) competition commissioner M Raymond Veil: differences of personality.



Much of the credit for the EEC's fairly successful anti-crisis plan for the steel industry must go to Viscount Davignon. The present problem has arisen because he has sought to apply the lessons of the steel plan, which was allowable under the terms of the treaty setting up the European Coal and Steel Community, to other sectors of industry.

The Davignon plan for steel, with its voluntary production quotas and minimum prices, has enabled the industry to operate a cartel and has involved the Commission in the most blatant form of protectionism by requiring it to negotiate agreements with third country producers to restrain imports into the Community.

In July a Davignon-inspired proposal was put to the Commission to allow crisis cartels under the EEC treaty and, before approval was obtained, the Viscount went ahead in helping to arrange the fibre industry agreement. Much to the horror of free traders, this was concluded in the Commission headquarters in Brussels.

Matters would not have become so serious if the Commission's competition department, D GIV, had been able to move more swiftly and curb Viscount Davignon's ambitions at the outset. The problem here has undoubtedly been compounded by differences in personality. The outward going Viscount Davignon and the introverted competition commissioner, M Raymond Veil, are as alike as chalk and cheese.

By the time M Vouel dug his heels in against Viscount

Davignon's plan and started enlisting support among his fellow commissioners, the affair of the chemical fibre cartel was in the open and a matter for public debate.

But the fibre cartel, while provoking an unedifying and as yet unresolved split in the Commission, may well turn out to be to the public good. For it provides the question as to what the European Community is all about. Does it still really believe in free trade or is talk of free trade just a front for creeping protectionism?

Moreover, is free trade still the best way of organizing the economies of Europe, given that much of the Community's industrial base has lost in competitiveness to the industrializing countries of the Third World and Japan since the beginning of the 1970s?

Furthermore, how much free trade in industrial products was there in Europe anyway? To give Viscount Davignon credit, he is not just a dirigiste. Earlier this month the Commission wrote at his instigation in the national governments of the Nine, the European COUNCIL AND THE European Parliament to point out the alarming scale of state meddling with free trade through non-tariff devices.

The Commission is working on 400 cases of disguised protectionism, covering such matters as exportations to consumers (such as Buy British campaigns), differing technical standards, allegedly unnecessary checks at frontiers and the giving of domestic industry preferential treatment in the awarding of public contracts. Four times as many dossiers are being handled at present than was the case five years ago and it is said that these represent only the tip of the iceberg.

The Commission has also yet to come to terms properly with the growth of state influence in industry as a result of the wave of nationalization since the recession.

Despite the high-flown pledges rejecting protectionism given by national governments at successive international gatherings and economic summits, it would seem as if free trade principles are always the first to weaken in times of crisis. It is here that the issue of the crisis cartels is so important. The European Community has a Janus face, in that it is based partly on protectionism and partly on free trade.

If crisis cartels are eventually permitted, the balance would be seen to be tipped in favour of protectionism and the forces of protection would obtain a powerful institutional ally in the shape of the Commission.

Just over a year ago Mr Roy Jenkins, the Commission president, gave Europe a powerful push through his speech in Florence presenting the case for economic and monetary union. Perhaps it is time he set the record straight on protectionism and free trade.

Peter Norman

## COURTAULDS

### Interim Profit and Dividend

The Board has declared an interim dividend in respect of the 1978/79 year amounting to 2.764p per 25p Ordinary Share of which 0.076p per Share is in respect of profits earned in the year to March 1978, and arises from the reduction in the rate of ACT. This dividend, together with the imputed tax credit, amounts to 4.125p (1977-78 3.754p) and will be paid on 12th January 1979 to the Ordinary Shareholders registered in the books of the Company as at the close of business on 22nd November 1978. The cost of the interim dividend after deducting ACT is £7.6m (1977-78 £6.8m).

Unaudited results for the first six months of the 1978/79 financial year are:

|   | 1st Half 1978/79 £m | 1st Half 1977/78 £m |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total Sales to External Customers                                     | 807.1               | 786.3               |
| Sales to UK Customers   | 401.8               | 378.0               |
| Exports from United Kingdom   | 206.0               | 203.1               |
| Trading Surplus   | 60.2                | 60.8                |
| Depreciation  | 32.8                | 32.9                |
| Profit before Taxation  | 27.4                | 27.9                |
| Less: Taxation  |                     |                     |
| —UK (including ACT £3.7m — 1977/78 £3.5m not immediately recoverable) | 43                  | 39                  |
| —Overseas   | 34                  | 44                  |
|   | 77                  | 83                  |
|   | 19.7                | 19.6                |
| Less: Minority Shareholders' Interest                                 | 3.1                 | 3.4                 |
| Courtaulds Shareholders' Interest                                     | 16.6                | 16.2                |
| Less: Preference Dividends  | 0.1                 | 0.1                 |
| Courtaulds Ordinary Shareholders' Interest                            | 16.5                | 16.1                |

Worldwide trading conditions have remained sluggish. Margins on exports, which account for a significant proportion of sales, have been eroded by the reduced competitiveness of sterling particularly against the U.S. dollar, and trading results have been affected adversely by this more than by any other factor. By contrast there has been an improvement in trading conditions in the U.K. resulting in a modest increase in operating margins.

Trading results for the second half of the year are expected to show an improvement over the comparable period last year.

Courtaulds, Limited  
18 Hanover Square London W1A 2BB

C. J. Cornwall, Secretary  
22nd November 1978



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## MK Electric expects first-half 46pc rise to continue

By Michael Prest

Interim pre-tax profits rose 46 per cent at MK Electric, the electrical fittings and components maker, to £3.89m. Mr Gordon Hazzard, the company's managing director, expects this rate of growth to continue through the second half.

The figures include results from EGA Holdings, a manufacturer of plastic parts and accessories, which MK bought last year for £9.83m. EGA made full year pre-tax profits of £1.4m to April and Mr Hazzard says it contributed a roughly proportionate amount to the latest accounts, although margins have fallen a little.

Sales by Insulators Ltd, the other main MK company, were also ahead. The volume increase in orders was 22 per cent for the whole group. The main setback was a loss of £500,000 from the assembly factory in Kuwait. But that is expected to break even next year.

Turnover was £26m compared with £15.5m for the comparable part of 1977. After taxation and



Mr David Robertson, chairman of MK Electric.

minority interests, net profit was up 30 per cent at £2.47m. The interim dividend is 3.3p net (4.53 gross). The maximum dividend allowed for the whole year is 6.48 net (9.67 gross).

MK is anxious to expand overseas since the market for British model plugs is limited. Major construction orders in Middle East, often to British builders, consultants and architects, have helped, and a trend towards refurbishing old property in the UK has offset the subdued domestic construction market.

But after the failure of an international conference earlier in the year to agree on a world design for plugs, MK's major product, the company has been looking for acquisitions or stakes in American or European firms. Mr Hazzard says MK is talking to "a couple of companies in America."

It is unlikely MK will buy an American company because many of the possible takeover targets are involved in legal proceedings over an alleged price-fixing ring. An equity stake is possible, however. Meanwhile, the search for partners in Germany and France goes on. Mr Hazzard denies that any takeover approaches have been received by MK itself.

## Uplift spurs Bulmer &amp; Lumb

By Rosemary Unsworth

Improved trading conditions, an increase in the level of orders and a general uplift in the textile industry resulted in a profits jump for Bradford-based spinner and dyer, Bulmer & Lumb in the first half.

Pre-tax profits increased by 25 per cent to £876,000 on a 4 per cent turnover increase to £14.5m for the half-year to October 8, 1978.

But the chairman, Mr Jack Nunnerley, warned that although trade in the first half was satisfactory, the momentum has not been maintained since the first quarter. As a result, providing there is no further

deterioration in trade, full-year profits "will not differ to any material extent from the 1977 figures" when profits amounted to a record £2.18m.

Sir William Bulmer, managing director, explained that the slowdown started in June and formed part of the general trend evident throughout the textile industry. Worst had shown signs of a recent improvement, which in turn would affect spinning and dyeing, but he added that imports continued to make an impact on the British industry.

The interim dividend has been increased by the maximum 10 per cent to 2.23 gross and an

additional 0.03p has been proposed for 1977 following the reduction in the ACT rate. The share price rose 2p to 56p by the end of the day.

Sir William pointed out that although the multi-fibre agreement was far from perfect, it acted as a partial brake on imports and helped the group, as the chairman predicted in the latest annual report. Changes in men's fashions, which include a move from worsted to tweed, were more likely to be responsible for the recent downturn in orders, rather than the end of the supposed consumer boom reported by retailers, he said.

## Overseas stimulus in Century Oils' half

Improving overseas business gave lubricants group Century Oils a better first half.

In the six months to September 30 last the group turned in pre-tax profits of £587,000 against a previous £435,000 on sales which rose from £9.5m to £10.5m. Margins improved from 4.6 per cent to 5.6 per cent.

The chairman, Mr C. Mitchell, describes the results as "satisfactory in the light of the lubricant industry's difficult trading conditions and forecasts a "satisfactory increase" in profits at the year end.

Century should be helped in the second half by a 2 per cent price rise which took effect from September 30. This is the first increase since June 1977.

Overseas business has been expanding and now accounts for over 10 per cent of turnover. The group exports to all the major mining countries in Europe, America and Africa while China and the Eastern block countries have become a new market for Century.

Last year Century fought off a £4.23m takeover bid from BP and the chairman admitted, yesterday, that the battle had retarded progress somewhat.

However, the group is pushing ahead again. Acquisitions overseas and natural growth in the United Kingdom are on the agenda though the chairman would not put a figure on the amount of money likely to be spent. The report and accounts, for the year to March 31, 1978, show that net borrowings at Century amounted to around a third of shareholders' funds.

However interest in the first half of the year totalled £91,000 against £122,000 last time. The shares yesterday firmed a penny to 64p.

## Legislation urged on insider trading

By Alison Mitchell

Self regulation of insider trading in the City is not enough, Lord Shawcross, chairman of the Takeover Panel said yesterday.

He told the first annual conference on the Regulation of the British Securities Industry that insider trading ought to be the subject of legislation and, as such, welcomes the Companies Bill, in principle.

The controversy is about the details, the small print, he pointed out.

Although he feels that the law ought to be brought in to deal with insider dealers he does not expect to see many prosecutions. Insider trading is infrequent, but criminal legislation will help to fortify and consolidate the climate of opinion which condemns it when it takes place, he told the meeting.

Lord Shawcross also took the opportunity to hit out at the amount of legislation that companies are obliged to comply with but added the rider that some form of rules are necessary in the City.

The law is the floor below which behaviour cannot descend, but behaviour generally goes above what the law requires, he said.

The alternative to the British City code, would, he said, be a similar system to the American Securities and Exchange Commission. However, he doubted if the British system would survive under the weight of bureaucratic frustrations, delays and expenses.

The two day conference on the British securities industry was sponsored by the British Institute of Securities Laws.

## Barratt set for fresh peaks

Barratt Developments is set to reach fresh peaks in the six months to end-December next. Speaking to shareholders at the annual meeting yesterday, chairman Mr Laurie Barratt, said "we shall build a record number of houses; generate record turnover from all building activities; achieve record income from our property investments and our profits for the half year will set a new record."

He was far less sanguine, however, about prospects for the housebuilding industry as a whole.

He felt that a further 18 per cent new house price rise is necessary.

## Stock markets

## Rally holds after Ford peace

The stock market breathed a sigh of relief yesterday as it became clear that the Ford workers were ready to accept the management's latest offer of 17 per cent.

Therefore, the eight-week-old strike almost at an end and better interim profits from companies reporting, such as Courtaulds, the market continued its improvement which had begun on Tuesday.

Business had opened up slightly firmer with the index 0.1 higher at 10 am at 474. This came as a surprise to some dealers who had expected it to be slightly easier following reports the previous night that the Hallowood shop stewards were recommending their members to reject the latest offer.

However, as the morning wore on the market became more confident and dealers reported that there had been small amounts of institutional buying.

Gilt remained unperturbed by what was happening in the rest of the market and closed at 100. The Treasury reported a reasonable amount of demand. At the short end of the market business remained steady and by the close gains had been registered of between 1 and 1/2. The story was much the same at the longer end, though prices finished the day below their best.

Applications for the new medium and long term close today but they are not expected to be heavily subscribed.

After lunch the market started to drift once again as it became apparent that there was not that much business about after all. Therefore the market began to look towards ICI reporting today, in order to give it a further boost.

After reaching its high point

of the day at 1.10pm, 5.5 points higher, the FT Index closed slightly off the top, 4.6 up at 478.6.

Bargains marked yesterday totalling 4,301 compared with 4,126 on Tuesday and 4,936 last Wednesday.

Most of the improvements were seen among leading equities. Courtaulds led the way following interim figures slightly above most market expectations, which had ranged between £25m to £28m. The shares gained 3p to 115p just before the announcement and held the improvement through to the close.

ICI, with third quarter figures expected today, put on 2p to 364p, while Unilever gained 4p to 540p. Glaxo rose 10p to 535p as Becham maintained its rally, following the disappointment in connection with its rights issue, to close 5p up at 612p. Hawker Siddeley improved by 4p to 224p and BAT firmed 5p to 280p. Comment enabled GEC to gain 1p and Fisons remained firm at 305p.

Among companies reporting, Tesco impressed favourably with a 34 per cent interim profits. The shares moved ahead 1p to 53p.

Interim figures from Associated Newspapers were another bright spot for dealers

following a 27 per cent increase in profits, which put the shares up 5p to 185p. This sparked off some interest in its counterpart the Daily Mail Trust with the ordinary shares jumping 12p to 362p and the "A" 13p to 360p in sympathy.

Bulmer and Lumb was also well received and the shares put on 2p to 56p, in spite of a warning that the improvement of the first could not be maintained. International Paint remained all square at 80p after a slightly improved performance while Century Oils gained 1p to 64p. Edgar Allen Balfour firmed 1p to 57p after a sharp profits setback while disappointing figures from John Folkes Hefo left the shares unchanged at 23p.

Metal Box continued to gain ground after its dividend boosting rights issue and put on a further 10p to 320p. But David Dixon also with a rights issue and dividend forecast finished all square at 114p after earlier gains of 2p.

Muirhead with figures due next week looked in good form rising 4p to 190p. Speculative interest led the way for a 6p rise to 105p in Management Agency and Music. Mills and Allen was also a centre for gossip and put on 10p to 212p.

A profits forecast from

Associated Dairies which appeared in its offer document for Allied Retailers lifted shares 6p to 182p. Allied tallies on the other hand finished up at 141p. Shares of Norton and W which have been riding high the boom in lottery tickets fared a bout of profit re

Dealers report that intense timber merchants Brownlie been building up. McLeod sell, which has a near 11 cent stake has increased holding while the other shareholder International has with 9.5 per cent has been in the market for shares recently. Again share price of 72p. Brown has assets per share of 91 some feel that the free element is undervalued.

yesterday and fell 18p to Ladbroke improved 6p to on suggestions from quarters that the shares looked cheap.

Equity recovery on Nov 21 was £57.580m (14,850 gains). Active stocks were according to the Exchange graph were, Beecham New Barclays, Shell, BAT's CIG, Ladbroke, MAM's and Allen and Burton A

## Latest results

| Company                 | Sales        | Profits    | Earnings    | Div        | Pay   | Ytd   |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------|-------|
| Int or Fin              | £m           | £m         | per share   | pence      | date  | total |
| Allied Retailers (I)    | 41.3a(30.8)  | 2.7(1.6)   | 4.48(2.67)  | 1.08(0.96) | 19/1* | —     |
| Assoc Newspapers (I)    | 2.9(7.4)     | 0.2(0.2)   | 9.2a(10.7)  | 2.2*       | 2/2*  | —     |
| Bulmer & Lumb (I)       | 14.5(13.9)   | 0.87(0.70) | 4.83(3.88)  | 2.49(1.36) | 2/1*  | —     |
| Century Oils (I)        | 10.5(9.5)    | 0.58(0.43) | 4.44(4.12)  | 0.60(0.53) | 9/1*  | —     |
| Courtaulds (I)          | 807.1(786.3) | 27.4(27.9) | 4.12(3.75)  | 12/1*      | —     | —     |
| Cockedge Hefo (I)       | 2.5(1.63)    | 0.2(0.15)  | 0.80(0.68)  | 16/12      | —     | —     |
| Edgar Allen Balfour (I) | 31.7(28.3)   | 0.55(1.0)  | 1.5(3.3)    | 1.2(1.2)   | 30*   | —     |
| J. Folkes Hefo (I)      | 31.8(31.6)   | 1.5(1.9)   | 0.44(0.4)   | 19/1*      | —     | —     |
| Albert Fisher (F)       | 5.4e(3.6)    | —          | 0.13(1.02)  | —          | —     | —     |
| Courtaulds (F)          | —            | 0.41(0.22) | 2.90(1.84)  | —          | —     | —     |
| Falshaw Mining (F)      | —            | —          | —           | 0.55(0.54) | 22/12 | —     |
| Pyramid (F)             | —            | —          | —           | 1.34(0.75) | 5/1*  | —     |
| Midway (I)              | 4.5(2.6)     | 0.25(0.26) | 10.61(6.36) | 3.3(3.0)   | 12/1* | —     |
| MK Electric (I)         | 26.0a(15.5)  | 3.8(2.6)   | —           | 1.9(0.54)  | —     | —     |
| Mining Inv Co (F)(I)    | —            | 0.39(0.10) | —           | 0.9(0.8)   | —     | —     |
| Monks Invest (I)        | 1.8(1.4)     | 1.3(1.1)   | —           | 0.76(0.68) | 6/2*  | —     |
| Patent (I)              | 14.3(12.8)   | 1.3(1.2)   | —           | —          | —     | —     |
| John & Barnes (F)       | 1.5(2.1)     | 0.06(0.02) | —           | —          | —     | —     |
| Somportex Hefo (F)      | 3.6(2.6)     | 0.16(0.7)  | 10.75(5.76) | —          | —     | —     |
| Tesco Stores Hefo (I)   | 529.9(395.9) | 13.2(9.7)  | —           | 8.78(0.70) | 1/3*  | —     |

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News div are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.49. Profits are pre-tax and earnings are net. a=Cents. b=26 weeks. c=Loss. d=26 weeks. e=15 months. f=1-1978.

## Edgar Allen Balfour urges early solution

## Effects of imports on special steels

Earlier this week, the Department of Industry received its first tangible evidence that the European Commission is prepared to lend a sympathetic ear to the pleas of the hard-pressed British special steels industry. The effect of cut-price imports from Germany, Austria and Sweden has been such that most, if not all, members of British Industry Steel Producers are losing money on tool and high speed steels. The tenor of the reply to the Department's presentation of the case prepared by BISP is understood to have been "helpful" but the industry will be pushing hard to an early solution to its problems.

It is by no means clear whether the Industry Commissioner, Viscount Etienne Davignon, is prepared to extend his steel industry aid scheme to include the special producers but Mr John Oakley and Mr Graham Wise, respectively chairman and managing director of Edgar Allen, Balfour, are willing to believe that such an extension can help.

Edgar Allen lost £529,000 in its special steels division, including £139,000 voluntary redundancy costs, in the six months to end-September last and is unlikely to do very much better than break even in the second half. One furnace has been closed or put in mothballs to use the industry euphemism, and the division still has adequate melting capacity. Increased

efficiency will help to staunch losses and the new GFM long forging machine has cut lead times on ballistics from 14 to 3 weeks. But there is a limit, as the board readily recognises, to what heightened efficiency can achieve. Mr Wise believes the group needs a 15 per cent price rise to reach a 10 per cent margin but, in an industry where annual tool steel output has been cut from 34,000 tons to about 16,000 tons over the past five years and where West German exporters are determined to reach 30 per cent penetration, such aspirations are based in "cloud cuckoo land".

Rumours of take-over and merger are ever rife in the Sheffield steel industry and Mr Wise is certain that if the fragmented UK producers, whose combined capacity reaches only 25,000 tons of special steel, are to challenge the growing ascendancy of its three major European competitors, all of whom are capable of turning out 100,000 tons each year, changes are necessary. Any regrouping, however, will not be made easy by the fact that Edgar Allen, like most of its British competitors, has several other powerful strings to its bow.

The engineering division, for instance, made £583,000 against £101,000 in the first half and, if the return on sales of £11.7m is worryingly low, orders are rising

slightly. The forgings and castings division dropped from £305,000 to £16,000 but the imminent commissioning of a Loewy press will lift the intake of aerospace orders. Casting, however, a short term order problem and the is likely to take remedial action next spring.

After a profit of £136,000 on five sales, pre-tax profits dropped from £535,000 and, with further cost a break even in special steels and some benefit from the Ford return to vote yesterday, the total should be £15m to £17m range against £2.4m year and earlier estimates of £1.9m.

That would just about cover a again gross dividend of 4.742p per share at 57p up 1p yesterday, it is 12 per cent. That looks about right the uncertainties in special steels a board will be aware of the need to retain the maximum possible profits as some believe, another "reorganisation" is about to take p Sheffield, Johnson Fifth Bro rumoured to have built a near cent stake which, with book as around 115p per share, should be to sustain the share price at c levels.

Ray Mau

## Our hose hasn't watered down our growth

Much of BTR's growth in recent years has come from the sale at home and abroad of specialist hoses of all types.

Our factories worldwide manufacture industrial hoses for many different critical applications.

We supply thousands of other products to the engineering, transportation, energy and mining industries worldwide. Vital components for cars, trains and planes. Hoses of all types. Heavy-duty conveyor belting. Oil platform steel-work assemblies. Rubber, plastic and engineering components.

We're confident we've got the right mix to carry on growing. Sales to key industries and worldwide manufacture and distribution. Above all, an operating philosophy that actively encourages growth.



BTR flexible suction hose in action with the fire brigade.



# BTR stands for growth

BTR Limited, Silvertown House, Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PL

## Options

After bouncing back from Monday's all-time low of 199 contracts traded options began to re-emerge again yesterday. The total number of contracts was 475 compared with the previous figure of 522.

Dealers reported a quiet time with only Boots arousing any interest with 125 contracts completed. The new series, which that eleven are being introduced to replace the 17 which have expired with the November options.

Conventional options were also quiet, the only interest being centred on First National Finance 91 per cent loan 1992/97 where a double was arranged. A call, however, was made for the market's new member Kitchen Queen.

## David Dixon rights issue

David Dixon & Son Holdings, the Leeds cloth and hosiery manufacturer, has proposed a rights issue to raise £311,000 for further capital investment, and to raise the dividend by 43 per cent.

The issue, which is on the basis of one new share for every four held, is at 93p and gives a 21p discount on the overnight price, and an ex rights price of 110p.

At the interim stage pre-tax profits increased by 80 per cent to £365,000 and turnover rose by 24 per cent to £5.5m. The interim dividend has been increased from its original 1.66p to 2.65p gross and the board intends to recommend a final of 5.3p, making a total of 7.94p. Treasury approval is not required as the final will be declared after July 31, 1979.

## ALBERT FISHER GROUP

The fruit and vegetable wholesaler and motor repairer, made £15,000 pre-tax in the 15 months to end-August last again. £53,000 in previous 12 months. Extraordinary costs of £55,000 were charged against discontinued activities.

| John Folkes Hefo LTD  |        |        |       |
|---|--------|--------|-------|
| MIDLANDS ENGINEERING GROUP  |        |        |       |
| EXTERNAL TURNOVER   | 1978   | 1977   | 1976  |
|   | £'000s | £'000s | £'000 |
| UNAUDITED PRE-TAX PROFITS   | 1,511  | 1,116  | 1,94  |
| Less Taxation @ 52%   | 786    | 580    | 1,01  |
| ATTRIBUTABLE PROFITS  | 725    | 536    | 83    |
| PERCENTAGE OF PRE-TAX PROFITS TO TURNOVER   | 4.75   | 3.35   | 6.1   |
| PROFIT MARGINS INCREASING   |        |        |       |
| Note—Corporation Tax has been provided on the above profits on a provisional basis at 52%. When the position for the year is available for assessment it is probable that the provision will be reduced due to deferred taxation being treated as a reserve. The method of treatment in the 1977 Accounts resulted in a taxation charge of £324,000 for the year. |        |        |       |
| The cost of the interim dividend (after waivers) for 1978 is £205,885 (1977 £172,988).  |        |        |       |
| In the first half of 1978, profits and margins started to improve. This trend is continuing in the second half of 1978, with the Ford and Hefo divisions contributing to profits and is likely to continue in 1979 when the Building Supplies Unit should also be earning profits. All eight Units will then be making profits as in the first half of 1977.      |        |        |       |
| An Interim Dividend of 0.44p per share for 1978 (1977 0.44p per share) has been declared and is payable on 18th January 1979 to Ordinary and Non Voting Ordinary Shareholders registered at the close of business on 15th December 1978. Your Board anticipates being in a position to recommend the maximum permitted Final Dividend.                            |        |        |       |

| WELCO HOLDINGS LIMITED   |              |            |                               |
|--|--------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| The electrical accessory & element manufacturing group of companies                                      |              |            |                               |
| Pre-Tax Profit up 27.0 per cent  |              |            |                               |
|  | 1978         | 1977       |                               |
|  | year ended   | year ended |                               |
|  | 30.6.78      | 30.6.77    |                               |
| Sales  | 7,579,531    | 5,724,768  | • Sales up 32.4 p.c.          |
| Pre-Tax Profit   | 645,219      | 507,765    | • Pre-Tax Profit up 27.0 p.c. |
|  | per 5p share |            |                               |
| Dividends: Net   | 1.125p       | 0.5p       | • Dividends up 125 p.c.       |
| Inclusive of Tax Credit  | 1.679p       | 0.75p      |                               |
| Earnings   | 5.15p        | 5.92p      | • Exports up 57.2 p.c.        |
| Report and Accounts from the Secretary, Welco Holdings Limited, 11, Queen Victoria Road, London SW1W 9PL |              |            |                               |



## FORD NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Hefo survives slashing  
argins on road to recovery

James Hefo, the Midlands group, has slashed its second half profit by 50 per cent, but the group is showing signs of recovery, with a 10 per cent increase in the second half of 1978, while the first half of 1978, the group's profit was down by 10 per cent, while the second half of 1977, the group's profit was up by 10 per cent.

The group's profit, which was down by 10 per cent, while the first half of 1978, the group's profit was down by 10 per cent, while the second half of 1977, the group's profit was up by 10 per cent.

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Mr. J. W. Bearnshaw, chairman of John Hefo.

sells furniture  
to Courts

English Stores, the Harry James group, has sold its furniture business to Courts, a move which is expected to bring about a 10 per cent increase in the group's profit.

The group's profit, which was down by 10 per cent, while the first half of 1978, the group's profit was down by 10 per cent, while the second half of 1977, the group's profit was up by 10 per cent.

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## anies 'more ethical'

have become more ethical in their conduct. The De-Trade revealed that there was a 10 per cent increase in the group's profit.

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British gas  
terms among  
recent best

Terms for the British gas, which was down by 10 per cent, while the first half of 1978, the group's profit was down by 10 per cent, while the second half of 1977, the group's profit was up by 10 per cent.

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## Euromarkets

The reopening of the market for Eurobonds denominated in French francs is qualified as a success by most Paris-based market makers. One operator commented that the French franc sector is the only area of stability in the market at present, according to AP-Dow Jones.

The prices of the two issues floated in the past two months have improved substantially since they came on to the secondary market. The issue of Unilever USF investments was quoted at 99 1/2, compared with 98 1/2 two weeks ago.

Bond dealers report considerable buying interest from Japanese investors, who they say are attracted to the high interest rates offered on French franc bonds.

Meanwhile, the decline observed in recent weeks in the interest rates on bonds floated on the French capital market will continue next week as an issue for the state railway authority SNCF comes on the market.

For an overall amount of 900 million francs, SNCF is offering to pay interest at 10 per cent, down from the 10.10 per cent coupon offered on a bond issue floated for the state-run lending institution Credit National this week.

The European Investment Bank plans to float a 500m schilling bond issue on the capital market in Vienna next month.

Oesterreichsbank, which is expected to float an 800m schilling bond issue in three tranches shortly.

The World Bank has signed a 400m bond issue with a syndicate of West German banks headed by Deutsche Bank as manager.

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Consolidated Gold starts its Saudi  
venture in 'King Solomon's mines'

By Michael Press

Consolidated Gold Fields moved into a new phase of its search for gold in Saudi Arabia yesterday with the first work on sinking an exploratory shaft at the Mahd adh Dhabab. The shaft was drilled by the Saudi Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals.

Work at the ancient diggings, which are known as 'King Solomon's mines', began in 1975 and has cost approaching £1.5m. Exploratory drilling started last year and it is expected that deposits are high-grade, though small in world terms, and not likely to last more than about 25 years.

Petroleum, the Saudi government agency, has the option to take 50 per cent in the develop-

## International

ment company, Gold Fields Mahd adh Dhabab, a British company, which is wholly owned by Consolidated Gold Fields Ltd. This would be normal under the guidelines governing Saudi interests in foreign companies. It is expected that Petroleum will exercise its option when the mine is closer to production.

If the shaft is finished in the middle of next year, it will be possible to take bulk samples and commence underground diamond drilling. A decision to proceed with full mining will be taken on the basis of this evidence.

## Moseley Hallgarten in merger

Moseley Hallgarten and Estabrook Holding Corp and Weeden Holding Corporation jointly announced in Boston that they have entered into an agreement to merge.

The two principal subsidiaries, Moseley Hallgarten and Estabrook Inc and Weeden & Co Inc, will also be merged.

The parent company will be called Moseley Hallgarten Estabrook and Weeden Holding Corp.

The combined securities subsidiary will do business on the New York Stock Exchange and other exchanges under the name Moseley Hallgarten Estabrook and Weeden Inc.

Moseley Hallgarten Estabrook Holding Corp is privately held and together with its broker-dealer subsidiary is headquartered in Boston, Weeden is publicly held and is based in New York.

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BPM HOLDINGS LTD  
A YEAR OF UPSWING

The 35th Annual General Meeting of BPM Holdings Ltd. was held on November 22nd, 1978, in Birmingham.

The following are extracts from the circulated statement of the chairman, Sir Michael Clapham, K.B.E.

This has been the year of the upswing. However, the past four years having drastically reduced the value of the pound, our profit of 24 million equals about 12.5 million in money of 1974, when our profit was £2.5 million. To remain static in real terms is no cause for self-congratulation. But these results show that our business is healthy, and can seize opportunities when the economic climate is favourable. Regrettably Government prevents us maintaining the real income of shareholders. We propose the maximum permitted dividend.

Eased financial stringency let us pursue our investment strategy more actively. Most of the funds generated still go to our primary activities of producing newspapers: roughly 11.5 million was spent or authorised for these in 1977-78. For our publishing activities in 1978, we paid 120,370 for 27.5% of the ordinary capital of Lloyds Limited, a company whose activities are less affected by the peaks and troughs of the advertising market which make our newspaper profit so volatile.

We want to invest a lot more on up-to-date equipment for newspaper production, because when the cycle turns down again the survival of some papers and the profitability of all will depend on more economical production. What prevents us is the attitude of some Trade Unions. Since our future depends on using the most advanced technology this situation is irremediable.

The Birmingham Post & Mail has benefited from increased advertising. In the upswing, our revenue increases disproportionately as it will decrease in the downturn. The Board, however, have seen winter follow summer before now. The greater funds available have been used both for investment and to improve the quality of the papers. They have relaunched the Saturday edition of The Birmingham Post, launched a North Worcestershire edition of The Evening Mail and introduced a morning edition of The Sportsman.

These changes and a drive to increase circulation have produced results. The Evening Mail, the Sandwell Evening Mail and the Sunday Mercury have all increased their sales.

Long term developments in collecting and disseminating information are being undertaken by a new Division, named Viewtel 202, to promote the Post Office Prestel Service.

The West Midlands Press had another good year. Its weekly papers, gaining circulation and advertising, The Dilton Newsagency group produced somewhat higher profits, though affected by price cutting on tobacco and sales of Fleet Street papers reduced by industrial troubles. West Midlands Envoys had a poor year, but re-equipment there continues. Our London weeklies had a record year, doubling 1977 profits. The Ideal Exhibitions was held in August. As the Nations' Evening Centre could offer no tenancy near the traditional October profits suffered from the change. However, the Boat and Leisure Life show in February was a great success. Our associate, North West Newspapers, again had a record year, and our investment in Birmingham Broadcasting produced a satisfactory dividend.

In conclusion, I would like to pay tribute to all members of our staff for their efforts to ward the Group's better performance this year, and in particular for their cooperation in the launch and development of new ventures. While we were not quite, in real terms, back to where we were in 1974, it has been a year of progress.

The Report and Accounts were adopted.

**BPM HOLDINGS LTD**  
28 Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AX

REPUBLIC OF IVORY COAST  
"ENERGIE ELECTRIQUE DE LA COTE D'IVOIRE"  
(E.E.C.I.)International Call for Tenders  
225 kV Overhead Line ABOBO-VRIDI  
and associated terminal equipment

The Company responsible for generation and transmission of electric power in the Republic of Ivory Coast, l'Electricite de la Cote d'Ivoire-E.E.C.I., is issuing an international call for bids for the construction of an overhead transmission line at 225 kV between the ABOBO and VRIDI substations (in the Abidjan area) as well as of the associated terminal equipment.

E.E.C.I. has obtained a loan from the European Investment Bank for this project.

The project is covered by 4 contracts:

- Contract n° 1: Supply of the 225/225 kV, 70 MVA transformers;
- Contract n° 2: Supply of six 225 kV and three 90 kV circuit breakers;
- Contract n° 3: Supply and erection of substation equipment at ABOBO and VRIDI substations (in the Abidjan area) as well as of the associated terminal equipment;
- Contract n° 4: Supply and erection of a single circuit 225 kV line, 29 km long, including a span of 1,150m and the crossing of the VRIDI canal.

Bids shall cover one or several contracts:

- The official contractual language is French;
- Tender documents will be available from the 18th December, 1978, at the following addresses:
- Energie Electrique de la Cote d'Ivoire (E.E.C.I.)
- Place de la Republique, Abidjan
- Societe de Travaux et d'Electricite Division Engineering
- 31, Rue de la Science-1040-Bruxelles
- against payment of 35,000 F.C.F.A. per contract in Abidjan or 5,000 BF in Brussels.

Tenders shall be submitted in 4 copies, two of which shall be sent to each of the two above mentioned addresses:

The bid due date is the 31st January 1979.

Bids shall remain valid for ninety days from date of receipt.

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## Business appointments

Mr James Elmslie joins  
Pearl Assurance board

Mr James Elmslie has been appointed director of Pearl Assurance Company.

Mr Bernard R. Garner has joined the board of Lex Service Group as a director.

Mr Brian Teague, the company secretary, has joined the board of Bradford Property Trust.

Mr G. J. Suckling has been appointed director and chairman of Approved Machine Tools.

Mr John Curran has been made European director of marketing specialist, Mel International.

Mr Robin Brooks has been appointed director/general manager of Oyez Copying.

Mr Michael J. Brown has been made management services and manpower officer of the Electricity Council.

Mr Hadi Amin has become executive vice-president at the head office of Bank Mellat, Tehran.

Mr K. Wilson has resigned from the board of Remorse Corporation and has relinquished his post as managing director of Remorse Transfer Prints.

Mr D. Sowerby has joined the board of Inter-City Investment Group.

Mr R. W. Sladen has been appointed director of the Society of British Gas Industries, in succession to Mr J. Courtney who has retired because of ill-health. Mr Sladen will continue to hold the position of secretary to the society.

Mr Colin Doland has been appointed the first executive director of British Waste Paper Association with effect from January 1.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Futures plan for Chicago on the way

The Chicago Board of Trade, which so far has lagged behind its smaller competitors in drawing up a stock-market-related futures contract, said that it plans to develop 11 such contracts simultaneously.

Exchange directors approved in principle development of what they call an industry index futures complex. It includes one futures contract tied to changes in a price index of between 40 and 60 publicly traded stocks and 10 other futures contracts based on indexes of those same stocks grouped according to different industries.

A preliminary listing of the 10 includes the car, chemicals, computer, pharmaceutical, electronics, energy, financial, retail, utilities and wood and paper industries.

Details will be worked out during the next two months or so and formal proposals then will be forwarded to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, an exchange spokesman said. Tentative plans call for each contract to have about \$100,000 face value and for prices to be quoted in 1/32 of a point, much like the other financial-instrument-related futures already listed at the exchange.

Exchange officials also plan, initially at least, to arrange for cash settlements of expired contracts rather than have traders deliver actual shares of stock or other instruments.

Stock-futures contracts have been planned, or proposed by the Kansas City Board of Trade and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange already. The concept was the subject of a two-day hearing by the commission in Washington last month. Regulators have not made a decision. —AP-DJ.

## Venezuela will back world coffee fund

Venezuela is willing to contribute to an international coffee price stabilization fund to be set up by Latin American producing countries, the president of the Venezuelan National Coffee Fund said in Caracas. The president, Mr. Pedro Angel Vazquez said that the fund proposal was still being structured and Venezuela would have to wait for a more detailed plan to give a definite answer. —Reuters.

## EVANS OF LEEDS

On gross results receivable of £1.39m (£1.2m), pre-tax profit for half to September 30 of £660,000 against £682,000 and includes profit from sale and development of properties of £55,000 (£25,000). Interim dividend unchanged at 0.5p.

## Bank Base Rates

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| ABN Bank            | 12 1/2 |
| Barclays Bank       | 12 1/2 |
| BCCI Bank           | 12 1/2 |
| Consolidated Grdts  | 12 1/2 |
| C. Hoare & Co.      | 12 1/2 |
| Lloyds Bank         | 12 1/2 |
| London Mercantile   | 12 1/2 |
| Midland Bank        | 12 1/2 |
| Nat Westminster     | 12 1/2 |
| Rensminster         | 12 1/2 |
| TSB                 | 12 1/2 |
| Williams and Glyn's | 12 1/2 |

\* 7 day deposit on basis of 100,000 units, up to 100,000 units, 10% p.a.

## M. J. H. Hinchings &amp; Co. Limited

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Over the Counter Market

|     |     |                  |     |    |      |      |
|-----|-----|------------------|-----|----|------|------|
| 79  | 29  | Airsprung Ord    | 73  | -1 | 5.5  | 7.5  |
| 120 | 106 | Airsprung 18' +  | 20  | +3 | 18.5 | 8.4  |
| 186 | 25  | Armigae & Rhodes | 40  | -  | 3.6  | 9.0  |
| 185 | 105 | Bardon Hill      | 185 | -  | 12.0 | 6.0  |
| 186 | 105 | Deborah Ord      | 242 | -  | 18.5 | 12   |
| 142 | 108 | Deborah 18' +    | 242 | -  | 18.5 | 12   |
| 242 | 120 | Frederick Parker | 131 | -1 | 12.4 | 9.4  |
| 158 | 135 | George Blair     | 135 | -  | 15.0 | 5.6  |
| 135 | 135 | Jackson Group    | 60  | +2 | 5.0  | 8.5  |
| 135 | 135 | Jane Burroughs   | 60  | +2 | 5.0  | 8.5  |
| 304 | 188 | Robert Jenkins   | 202 | -3 | 29.7 | 9.8  |
| 25  | 9   | Twiock Ord       | 23  | -1 | -    | -    |
| 112 | 54  | Twiock 12' ULS   | 112 | -  | 12.0 | 15.0 |
| 112 | 54  | Twiock Utding    | 112 | -  | 11.2 | 11.2 |
| 133 | 67  | Walter Alexander | 135 | +3 | 7.2  | 5.3  |







Law Report November 22 1978

## Clause requiring tenant to pay costs a penalty

Stevenson and Rush (Holdings) Ltd v Langdon

Before Lord Justice Megaw, Lord Justice Browne and Lord Justice Waller

A clause in a lease of business premises providing that the tenant should pay to the landlord all the costs and expenses which the landlord would incur should the tenant apply for a new lease under Part II of the Landlord and Tenant Act, 1954, was a "penalty" within the meaning of section 38(1) of the Act.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing in part an appeal by the tenant, Mr Martin Teles Langdon, of Park Street, Croydon, from the judgment of Judge Graham Hall at Croydon in October, 1977, in favour of the landlord, Stevenson and Rush (Holdings) Ltd, in which she held the tenant liable under clause 3(17)(a) and (c) of his lease for sums amounting to over £1,000, the costs incurred by the landlord in connection with the grant of a new lease.

Section 38(1) provides: "Any agreement relating to a tenancy to which this Part of this Act applies shall be void in so far as it purports to preclude the tenant from making an application or request under [Part II] of this Act or provides for the termination or surrender of the tenancy in the event of his making such an application or request or for the imposition of any penalty or disability on the tenant in that event."

## VAT assessments not limited to one accounting period

S.J. Grange Ltd v Customs &amp; Excise Commissioners

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Bridge and Lord Justice Templeman [Judgments delivered Nov 21]

An assessment made by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise under section 31(1) of the Finance Act, 1972, of the amount of value added tax due from a taxable person who has failed to make any returns or whose returns are incomplete or incorrect can relate to a period covering more than one prescribed accounting period, though in such a case the limitation period provided by section 31(2) runs from the end of the first prescribed accounting period included in the period covered by the assessment.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by the Customs and Excise Commissioners from the decision of Mr Justice Neill allowing the appeal of S.J. Grange Ltd, against a decision of a VAT tribunal at Exeter and discharging an assessment made by the commissioners on the company in accordance with section 31(1) as being invalid.

Section 31 provides: "(1) Where a taxable person has failed to make any returns required under this Part of this Act or to keep any documents and afford the facilities necessary to verify such returns or where it appears to the Commissioners that such returns are incomplete or incorrect they may assess the amount of tax due from him to the best of their judgment and notify it to him. (2) An assessment under subsection (1) of this section of an amount of tax due for any prescribed accounting period shall not be made after the later of the following: (a) two years after the end of the prescribed accounting period; (b) one year after the date on which the evidence of facts, sufficient in the opinion of the Commissioners to justify the making of the assessment, comes to their knowledge; (c) the end of the period covered by the assessment."

Mr Paul Bortorbury for the tenant, Mr Ronald Bernstein, QC, and Mr Nicholas Hannah for the landlord.

LORD JUSTICE MEGAW said that the landlord company was the owner of premises, which were for the purposes of the Landlord and Tenant Act, 1954, business premises. They were let by the landlord to the tenant from July 6, 1967, for seven years at a yearly rent of £375.

Clause 3(17) of the lease provided that the tenant should "pay to the landlord all costs and charges and expenses including legal costs and charges payable to a surveyor which may be incurred by the landlord (a) in or in contemplation of any application to any planning authority... (c) of and incidental to the preparation and service of any notice by either party on the other under Part II of the Landlord and Tenant Act, 1954, and all negotiations subsequent thereto and of all proceedings thereunder."

The judge was right in deciding that clause 3(17) of the lease was a penalty within the meaning of section 38(1) of the Act. The tenant gave notice of use of part of the demised premises, the requirement for which was raised by the tenant's surveyors, fell within the provision of clause 3(17) (a).

A more important and difficult point related to paragraph (c). The tenant gave notice of use of a new lease. Steps were duly taken as required by the Act to bring the matter before the court in order that the evidence of facts, sufficient in the opinion of the Commissioners to justify the making of the assessment, comes to their knowledge; (c) the end of the period covered by the assessment."

Mr Peter Archer, QC, solicitor general, and Mr Harry Woolf for the commissioners; Mr S. T. Bates, QC, and Mr David Shirley for the company.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the appeal, the decision in which many cases were awaiting, concerned a company in Sharnbrook which sold jewelry and china. When VAT was introduced by the Finance Act, 1972, the company, like all such traders, had to send in returns every three months showing the amount of the tax payable by them. They sent in sets of figures for each prescribed accounting period and paid the amount of tax which they said was payable and all looked to be in order.

The commissioners had officers who went round helping taxable persons and finding out their mistakes and omissions. In January, 1975, one officer went to the company's offices and inspected their books and documents. After many meetings the commissioners came to the conclusion that the company's returns were incomplete and incorrect and in July, 1976, they made an assessment under section 31 relating to a period of 21 months, saying that the company ought to pay additional VAT of £2,571, reduced after much discussion to £1,972.

The company claimed that the notice of assessment was bad in that a valid assessment could not be given for a lump period, and that separate assessments ought to be made for each three-month accounting period. The VAT tribunal did not agree, but on appeal the judge held that the assessment was bad.

The new lease should be granted to the tenant. The parties came to terms, and as a result the court made an order by consent which gave the tenant a further 10 years at £1,500 a year upon the terms of the old lease, save that it was provided that into clause 3(17) (c) "reasonable" should be inserted between "all" and "costs". The word "reasonable" was also to be deemed to be included in the lease.

The consent order made no mention of costs and expenses which led up to the making of that order. The landlord presented the tenant with a bill for over £1,000, which included substantial sums for solicitors' charges, counsel's fee and chartered surveyors' fees. The tenant declined to pay and the matter came before the court, the landlord relying on clause 3(17) of the lease.

The tenant denied liability by reference to section 38(1) of the Act. It was contended that clause 3(17)(c) was an agreement which purported to impose a penalty on him on his making an application under the Act and was therefore void. The effect of the subclause was, it was said, that it would tend to discourage the tenant from making the sort of application which the landlord sought to make because, however successful he was in making his application and getting an order from the court that the landlord should pay his costs, the landlord would be able, by virtue of the subclause, to recover all of his costs from the tenant. That would be subject only to the limitation of reasonableness which

Accordingly, the notice of assessment was good in law and the case should be remitted to the tribunal to continue the hearing. Lord Justice Bridge and Lord Justice Templeman delivered concurring judgments.

The appeal was allowed.

Solicitors: Mr G. F. Gloak; Herbert Smith & Co for Harold Macdonald & Co, Newton Abbot.

## Judge's duty to give reasons

Bowman v McKeown

A judge who had a dispute appearing in person before him should give clear reasons for his decision, and should deal with special care with the case of the party against whom he decided, Lord Justice Bridge said.

The more awkward or difficult a dispute might be, the more important it was that the judge should do his duty with regard to giving his reasons.

His Lordship was sitting with Lord Justice Stephenson and Sir David Cairns in the Court of Appeal, when the court dismissed an appeal by the defendant appellant against an order that the plaintiff respondent should recover £411 against him and that his counterclaim should be dismissed.

**Jail for stabbing**

James Lockley, aged 19, of Dorset, was sentenced to 12 months in prison for wounding a man by inflicting four cuts on his face and abdomen.

## Headmaster dead with gun wounds

From Our Correspondent Reading

Mr Anthony Davis, Head Master of Reading School, who was said to be deeply worried by plans for the grammar school to go comprehensive, has been found dead from shotgun wounds.

Mr Davis, aged 47, a bachelor, was found in his room at the school lodge by the school burglar on Tuesday night. A 12-bore shotgun lay at his side. The police do not suspect that anyone else was involved.

The school, once a private establishment, is one of two state-maintained grammar schools in Reading that have not yet gone comprehensive. The last scheme to combine them as a comprehensive educational boarding school was rejected by the Secretary of State for Education and Science. The Reading school authorities have been asked to present an alternative plan. Mr Davis, head master for the past 12 years, opposed any change in the system. One parent said: "He was deeply worried about the future and told parents he would resign if the school went comprehensive. He was always opposed to the change and obviously felt very strongly on the matter."

Mr William Stansfield Taylor, vice-chairman of the governors and a member of Berkshire County Council, said: "He was definitely worried about the future of the school."

"He believed strongly in grammar schools and had been through attempts to change the school two or three times before. He had also lost the sight in one eye and his father died recently. I think all these things together were more than any man could bear. It is a very sad loss."

Berkshire County Council said: "We are at present working on another plan to turn the school into a comprehensive."

## Date set for new Peak District by-pass inquiry

A new public inquiry into a plan to by-pass Chapel-en-Frith and Whaley Bridge, in the Peak District, will start on January 16 at Buxton, Mr William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, announced yesterday.

The first inquiry was abandoned after three hours when the Ministry of Transport conceded that because it had not posted notices on footpaths affected by the road scheme the inquiry was illegal.

## Six public house bomb men to sue police

Six men convicted over the Birmingham public house explosions four years ago, in which 21 people died, were given permission by a High Court judge in London yesterday to sue the police, alleging assaults on them while in custody.

At the end of a private hearing lasting six days, Mr Justice Cantley dismissed an application by West Midlands Police Authority to strike out the statement of claim by the six, who are seeking damages for alleged injuries and suffering while in police custody. West Midlands police said they would appeal against yesterday's decision.

The six men were sentenced to life imprisonment at Lancaster Crown Court in August, 1975, on being found guilty of murdering 21 people and conspiring to cause explosions. Three others were convicted at the same trial were not concerned in yesterday's hearing.

The six suing the police are: Patrick Joseph Hill, aged 33, of Kibbourn Road, Noel Richard McKenney, aged 34, of Epsom Grove, John Walker, aged 42, of Enderby Road, Robert Gerald Hunter, aged 32, of Riley Way, all Kingstanding; William Power, aged 32, of Cranwell Grove, Pye Hayes, and Hugh Daniel Callaghan, aged 47, of Sparrow Grove, Erdington, all Birmingham.

Mr Hill, Mr Power and Mr Callaghan are also suing the Lancashire Police Authority for alleged assaults on them while in custody.

**Mother says she put baby outside, then fell asleep**

From Our Correspondent York

A mother whose baby froze to death last January told York Crown Court yesterday that she put him out on a ledge of her one-room flat because she thought the cold air would make him sleep. He had been crying.

Mrs Julia Boynton, aged 22, of Grimsthorpe, near Barnsley, denies manslaughter, inflicting grievous bodily harm and cruelty.

She said she stayed with him for about five minutes and tried to rock him to sleep. It was about 1.30 am and after moving him to a sofa position on the fourth-floor ledge, she sat on the bed.

"I only intended staying on the bed ten minutes and then go and get him again," she said. She got under the bed.

Some young West Indians 'reject white society'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A significant minority of young West Indian males in England are rejecting the values of white, English society and expressing pride through Rastafarianism in being black, according to a report published today by the Social Science Research Council research unit on ethnic relations, at Bristol University.

Robert Miles, the author, a lecturer in sociology at Glasgow University, says that Rastafarianism might develop into a coherent political movement similar to the Black Panthers in the United States.

Originally a religious movement, which developed in Jamaica in the 1930s, it has become in England a means of

## Mother hit on crossing gets £32,500 damages

From Our Correspondent Manchester

A young mother is a conscious in hospital in a condition, 15 months after hit by a car on a pedestrian crossing, the High Court in Manchester was told yesterday.

Mr George Carman, 1 counsel, said that Mrs Patel, aged 28, was a blind and speechless, being cared for with great dedication by her husband, who had been hit by a car on a pedestrian crossing, the High Court in Manchester was told yesterday.

Mrs Patel was 1 agreed damages of £32,500 with costs for the brain damage she received in August last year. Carman said that Mrs Patel, who had been hit by a car on a pedestrian crossing, the High Court in Manchester was told yesterday.

Her life expectancy was against Mr Harry B of Bolton Road, Westchester Manchester, 1 driver.

## Society to stifle history of British lands

By Norman Hammond

Archaeological Correspondent

A society to provide study of the history of the landscape is to be launched at the end of next March. The society will be called the Society for the Study of the History of the Landscape.

The aim of the society "to promote the study of the history of the landscape and its impact on man and his environment as it is reflected in the landscape."

The society will include only the earthworks of prehistoric and medieval times, but also the study of the history of the landscape and its impact on man and his environment as it is reflected in the landscape.

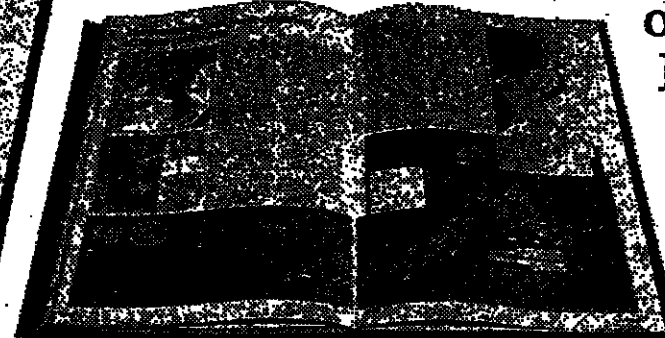
Patterns of agriculture and industry will be part of the society's interest in the study of the landscape and its impact on man and his environment as it is reflected in the landscape.

The society hopes to the work of archaeologists that of geographers, and to form both for specialists and field workers.

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This is a senior post for an agriculturalist who has considerable experience in large-scale farm management. The Institute is a major research centre for the study of animal diseases and the post involves supervision through section heads of a Crop Husbandry Section, a Poultry Section and a Pigs Section. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of farm staff and experimental animals.

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The Royal Corps of Naval Constructors is a highly qualified civilian group of Engineers who design, construct and maintain the ships and submarines of the Royal Navy. The modern warship is a sophisticated fighting vessel which has to operate under difficult and highly adverse conditions. The engineering problems encountered in this unique environment require innovative and evolutionary techniques of the highest order in the design, construction of the ship itself and its internal systems, production units and ancillary systems (mechanical, electrical and electronic). The qualifications for membership are therefore very high by normal standards and so naturally, we select for our honours degree course, those students who have the best chance of succeeding.

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You must be under 19 on 1 March 1979 and have, or obtain in summer 1979, 3 good GCE 'A' level passes preferably in (1) Physics (or Physical Science or Engineering Science) with Pure Maths and Applied Maths or (2) Physics or P or E or Ed with Maths, Pure and Applied) and Chemistry or other suitable science subjects. Other combinations of Maths, Physics and Chemistry, suitable for a degree, are acceptable. Equivalent qualifications in the Higher Grade of 'SE' acceptable. In addition, GCE 'O' level pass or Grade A, B or C in English Language (or equivalent) is required.

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Please telephone Chestertons (J.G.E.C.)

01-606 3055 for an application form (with further information) and return not later than Friday, 8th December, 1978

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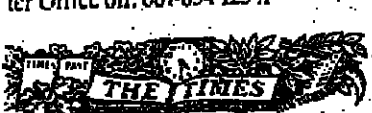
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Appointments will be made for periods of up to 5 years, with salaries in the range: £3,883 to £8,555 for post-doctoral Research Associates and £2,888 to £4,385 for technicians.

Salary scale are currently under review.

Applicants should send a detailed curriculum vitae and names of two referees to both:

Professor W. J. Brammar, and Biochemistry Group,  
 ICI Corporate Laboratory,  
 University of Leicester,  
 Leicester LE1 7RH.

Dr. J. H. Drenth, and Biochemistry Group,  
 ICI Corporate Laboratory,  
 The Health, Research,  
 Cheshire WA 4DE.

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## PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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SALARY RANGES £3,468-£4,107

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Closing date for applications 8 December 1978.

For further information, contact the Administrative Officer, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE. Tel: 01-253 3300.

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## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

## PERSONAL CHOICE

nbe and Ernie Wise who appear in tonight's *The Sweeney* (ITV, 9.00).

o wavelength changes (details are given in ad 8) coincide with some changes, too, in timing and duration. *The World at One*, by 10 minutes, so *The Archers* starts 20 minutes earlier, at 11.45, and is moved from 1.45 to 2.02.

the first of a new weekly series on Radio 4's *Mid-Week with Desmond Wilcox*, a birthday spot interview by Wilcox, *Start the Week and Stop the Week* stable and rising entertainment, disturbing oddities and uments. That ought to be enough to be

t be all that many people who can claim to knowledge of Genghis Khan or the territory, or come to that, the history of in fact that three of tonight's ordealists in BC 2, 8.30) have set themselves up as repositories about these three subjects—the fourth will about the life and works of Elgar—is what risty, almost perversity, to this most eclectic of es. Tonight is the last chance the contenders will for the semi-finals.

Tomorrow's *World* (BBC 1, 6.55) include one object that can be seen bobbing up and down is not a monster leg-pull; that, in any case, automatically to exclude the item from one sistent entertaining, but responsible, ammes on television. Another invention in is a chemical foam which, as soon as it is lid. It could be useful in tackling such fire and floods, and tonight we see its

ondering what on earth Morecambe and Wise omedy pair, are doing in tonight's instalment, that anything but bantling series about D. The answer, quite simply, is that nbe and Wise are playing themselves, s in cabaret. It is a framed photograph of them, a missing professor, that leads to their sed by the police.

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

9.41 am, For Schools, colleges (until 12.20); 9.01, Merry-Go-Round; 10.03, Everyday Mazes; 10.25, Near and Far (Guersey); 11.00, Scene (Reggie); 11.30, Eyn o Fyd; 11.55, Balamy on Balamy; 12.45 pm, News and weather; 1.00, Pebble Mill: including Tony Blower's feature on the cinema; 1.45, Bagpuss: for the young viewer; 2.00, You and Me: Vicki Luke and circles; 2.14, For Schools, colleges (until 3.00); 3.15, English (A Collier); Friday Night; 3.45, Treffpunkt-Deutschland; 3.53, Regional News (not London); 3.55, Play School: the story is A Clock for the Town Square.

## BBC 2

11.00 am, Play School: same as BBC 1; 3.55, Closedown at 11.25; 5.10 pm, Open University: The Pre-School Child: Going Shopping; 5.35, News, with subtitles for the hard of hearing; 5.40, Laurel and Hardy: Their First Mistake (1932); Stanley and Oliver adopt a baby, the mistake of the title; 6.00, Schibert: tonight's commemorative programme includes songs from his Winter song cycle (see also 11.25).

## THAMES

9.30 am, For Schools (until 12.00); 9.30, Stop, Look, Listen (Butchers); 9.44, Look Around; 10.04, My World; Real Life; 10.16, Picture Box; 10.33, The English Programme; 11.00, Music Round; 11.22, Seeing and Doing; 11.39, French Stories.

12.00, Topper's Tales: Julian Orchard tells his own story *The Railway*.

12.10 pm, Pippins: the story of Uncle and the Marrow.

12.30, Toycraft: how to make your own toys, and a discussion with a psychotherapist about the psychological importance of toys.

1.00, News, with Peter Sissons.

1.30, Thames News: with Robin Houston.

1.30, Crown Court: a verdict in a wounding case.

2.00, After Noon: Antonia White, author of *Frost in May*, the girls' school story, tells Mavis Nicholson what her own school days were really like.

2.25, *Fallen Hero*: repeat of part two of the serial about an injured Rugby League player who has to reshape his life.

3.30, Looks Familiar: Hollywood star Joan Fontaine, film specialist Peter Noble are film specialists: Peter Noble are Denis Norden's studio guests in this 'do you remember' programme about the Thirties and Forties.

3.50, The Sullivan: Australian family story.

4.20, *Yogi Bear*: cartoon. A Duck in a sack; 4.25, Jackanory: Kenneth Williams reads from *The Dribble*; 4.30, Teapots, by Norman Hunter; 4.40, Emu's Broadcasting Company: including the return of the Emu Line and more from the Open University; 5.05, John Craven's Newsround: junior news; 5.10, Blue Peter: children's 5.40, News: with Peter Woods; 5.55, Tomorrow's World: Something good comes out of Loch Ness (see Personal Choice); 6.05, John Craven's Newsround: junior news; 6.10, Blue Peter: children's 5.40, News: with Peter Woods; 6.25, Tomorrow's World: Something good comes out of Loch Ness (see Personal Choice); 6.30, Play School: the story is A Clock for the Town Square.

6.30, *Beneath the Pennines*: Geologist Tony Walshaw talks about the scientific exploration that is going on in the White Scar cave at Ingleton; 6.50, When the Boat Comes In: Jack Ford (James Bolan) mission to London on a strange mission; 7.00, News and weather; 7.15, Newsweek: current affairs programme. Roy Jenkins, the EEC Commission president, in a discussion about the common monetary system proposal; 7.30, Film: *Rebel Without a Cause* (1955); James Dean as the young man in conflict with himself, his family and society.

8.30, *TV Eye*: From California, burlesque of the People's Temple movement involved in this week's mass suicide in Guyana, a report on the cult and its motives; 9.00, *The Sweeney*: Is there a connexion between Morecambe and Wise (playing themselves) and a missing professor? Flying Squad drama. (See Personal Choice); 9.10, News; 9.30, *Thames at Six*: regional news round-up; 9.35, Crossroads: motel stories; 9.40, *The Bionic Woman*: Death for Max, the bionic dog; 9.45, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 9.50, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 9.55, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.00, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.05, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.10, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.15, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.20, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.25, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.30, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.35, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.40, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.45, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.50, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 10.55, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 11.00, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 11.05, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 11.10, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 11.15, *George and Mildred*: comedy series; 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